

## Ironside State School

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Dear Parents

Congratulations to the following Year 7 students who have been selected as nominees for the 2009 School Captain and Vice Captain positions. Voting will be held this week and our School Captains' Investiture Ceremony will be held on Monday 16 March at 9.30 am in the Hall. Our special guest will be the Executive Director of Brisbane Central and West – Mr David Curran. Parents are welcome to attend this special school function. Nominees: Jack Radford -Smith, Nicholas Wu, Ceri Atherton, Katie Land, Achira Samaratunga, Suvradip Maitra, Lara Matthews, April Travis, Liam Schwartz, Daniel Radford-Smith, Victoria Patapan, Caitlin Henderson, Lucy Van Baarle, Emma Jenkinson and Imogen Baxter.

### Literacy Professional Development

Last year Education Queensland provided all Early Years teachers with a comprehensive five-day professional development program to support their teaching of literacy. This year, the program has been extended to teachers in Years 4 to 7. The feedback to date from our staff has been very positive. We are most fortunate in being able to employ regular relief teachers who are following the daily programs set by our Ironside staff when they are off campus at Literacy training.

Best wishes to Mr Edwsmith who is taking two weeks Long Service Leave from Monday 16 March. He will be replaced by Mrs Julie Bulgarelli.

### Spellathon

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Parent Information Evening on Spelling last week. Our whole school has a strong focus on enhancing all our students' spelling skills this year, so thank you for your support. I would like to give parents advance notice of our plan to conduct a Spellathon shortly. Students will receive their spelling words and sponsor booklets during the last two weeks of this term and will have the Easter break to collect sponsors. Early in Term 2, the students will be tested and will have the opportunity to win some wonderful prizes that the P&C are currently finalising.

### Flick the switch for Earth Hour

For one hour, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm, on Saturday 28 March the whole of Australia is being asked to 'flick the switch' for Earth Hour.

Earth Hour, the World Wildlife Fund's global environmental initiative, aims to raise awareness of the climate change issue and makes it possible for individuals to take action and reduce greenhouse emissions. It is a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community – a call to stand up, to take responsibility and to get involved in working towards a sustainable future.

All households are encouraged to participate by switching out their lights and turning off non-essential electrical appliances. It is important to register your participation on the Earth Hour website in order to make your action count.

For more information on how to register and how to participate visit [www.earthhour.org/](http://www.earthhour.org/).

It's a fantastic way to support your child's creative development and also gain a special keepsake.

*Patricia Neate  
Principal*

## News from Mrs Ruddick-McGrath

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FUN RUN/WALK

Thank you to the staff, students and parents who participated in this event. We are hoping to encourage more Ironside participants for next year.



## SPRING FAIR

Spring Fair on again this year!  
A committee is being formed to help convene the Spring Fair for September 2009. This is a major event – your help would be appreciated! To get involved, please contact the P&C (either at the next meeting, 31 May, or email [pandc@ironsidess.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@ironsidess.eq.edu.au) right now!). Please also get in touch if you have some fresh ideas for the Fair. Many thanks,  
**Ironside P&C**

## ST LUCIA

## KINDERGARTEN

The St Lucia Kindergarten is kindly asking for donations of pre-loved Leggo and Duplo. If you would like to donate Leggo or Duplo that your children do not use anymore, please drop it in at the kindy and it will be gratefully received.

## CHESS CLUB

### **Correction - address of host school!**

Please note that the venue for the Chess Championship is: Kedron State High School, Park Road, Woolloowin. (Not Leckie Road as previously stated.)

**Ian Murray**  
Regional Tournament Director

## OVERSEAS AND AUSTRALIAN FAMILY NETWORK MEETING

The first meeting for parents was held in the Staffroom on Wednesday 11 March commencing at 2:00 pm. Thank you to the thirty parents from fourteen different countries who attended. At this meeting we discussed the role of our English as a Second Language Teachers and we started planning for Ironside's International Breakfast which is to be held on Friday 12 June commencing at 7:30 am. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th April at 2:00 pm in the Staffroom. Please join us if you can.

## 2009 JAPAN STUDY TOUR

We have now received approval from Education Queensland to start planning the 2009 Japan Study Tour. A letter was sent home yesterday with all Year 6 and 7 students who completed an Expression of Interest form either at the end of 2008 or during this term. We would like the parents of those students to return the confirmation form at the bottom of the letter stating that the student would definitely like to be considered to be a participant in the Study Tour. All forms are to be returned by Friday 13 March. As we have received a large number of requests, we may have to have a ballot as we are limited to the size of the group. At this stage we are planning to take 60 students. After we determine the student participants, we will then be in contact with the parents who have expressed an interest in participating.

## BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL PARKING RESTRICTIONS

As many of you are aware, there has been a change in parking conditions in the St Lucia area. The signage was installed on 27 February. This signage will indicate a two hour limit for motorists parking between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm Monday to Friday. A map is on display on the noticeboard outside the main office. For further information you may contact the project information line on 1800 199 757 or refer to the following link [http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE::pc=PC\\_2911](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE::pc=PC_2911)

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

We are considering starting Book Club here at Ironside. Book Club allows families to purchase books that are available for sale through an age appropriate brochure. The Club:

- is age specific
- offers the best books at amazing prices
- offers products linked to the curriculum
- supports and develops children's learning experiences at school

There are the following clubs:

Busy Bee; Wombat; Lucky; Arrow; Star and special themed Offers.

I am interested in meeting with any interested parents who can help with the running of the Book Club. If you are interested, please contact me on 3258 3111 or e-mail me on [jrudd10@eg.edu.au](mailto:jrudd10@eg.edu.au) so that I can then set up a meeting to discuss what is required.

*Janice Ruddick-McGrath*  
*Deputy Principal*

## News from Mr Knights

### Interschool Sport

You would have noticed that on your term invoice the interschool sport payment has been separated over term 1 and 2. This will enable us to ensure that we can refund to parents where possible those sport days that are cancelled due to wet weather.

Congratulations to our year 5 and 6 students who did a great job at sport last week.

### Peer Leaders

Well done to all of the peer leaders who have been doing a great job in this first week helping out on the junior playground. Your efforts are much appreciated.

### Mathematics

World Maths Day on March 4 went over very well. Over 28,000 schools participated from more than 231 countries.

Ironside State School this year has purchased a school licence for our students at a cost of over \$5000 so that all students may investigate and explore different numeracy Concepts at school and home .

### MOE

The school has 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 its 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*

Queensland Bike Week is on again on Thursday the 19th of March. Come and join us for a breakfast BBQ at the University of Queensland Pool. We will meet at the Ironside State School basketball courts at 6:45 am and then depart to the University. We will arrive back at the School no later than 8:15 am.

- Children need to be accompanied by a parent and have road-worthy bikes (tyres inflated, working brakes etc.) and helmets for the ride.
- If parents want to take their children straight to the UQ pool for the BBQ breakfast then they can do that, however we need to make sure that there are enough parents to escort the children back to the school (children and their bikes cannot just be 'dumped' at the pool, nor should they be dumped at the school. we will not be able to leave the school if there are not enough parents to escort the children.
- Older children (Yrs 5-7) can ride in a group of up to six with a supervising adult.
- Bicycle Queensland has a number of suitable activities for families during Bike Week. These can be found on their website at [www.bq.org.au](http://www.bq.org.au).

Please notify us if you would like to participate by Monday 16th March by adding your details to the list available at the School Office.

## 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 8-10 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.

### Curriculum Information



### How you can help your child with writing

As part of our school commitment to spelling we are focussing on daily writing activities. Over the next few weeks we will be highlighting ways you can help your child with writing.

Everyday tasks such as making a shopping list can help improve your child's writing skills.

Our school encourages all parents to help their children with their writing at home. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- ask your child to make a greeting card for a special occasion
- talk about the different ways we use writing (making lists, writing messages or notes)
- make personalised scrap books with your child – glue a photo or picture your child chooses onto a page and ask them to write words or sentences about the picture
- create a special place for your child to write. Providing writing materials, such as an easel or blackboard with scrap paper and pencils, makes a great environment to experiment with writing. Set up some plastic letter tiles or magnets for your child to play with or a keyboard to spell out or type words.

Most importantly, have fun!

*Richenda Wagener*  
*Head of Curriculum*



## Year Two News

### **Sound Sensations**

This term, Year Two have been investigating sounds. Children brought in a variety of objects to demonstrate how we use sound. We discovered we use sound in a variety of ways. Here are some examples.

Enjoyment



Communication



Warning



Reminder



## Uniform Shop News

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

# Swim Club News

What a fantastic night we had last Friday! Thanks to all swimmers for wonderful behaviour and to all parents for volunteering to help.

## Winners of last week's awards:

1st	Amanda	Smith
2nd	Philip	Henderson
3rd	Cory	Phillips
Most improved Butterfly swimmer	Liam	Schwarz
Most improved Freestyle swimmer	Hugo	Houlahan
Most improved Backstroke swimmer	Isaac	Shimmin-Clarke
Most improved Breaststroke swimmer	Jared	Robinson
Most improved Medley swimmer	Nathan	Meiklejohn

## Schedule for Race Nights as from 13 March

Club Championships are only 3 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 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 <b>close</b> – no late entries will be taken (Why not pre-nominate?)
6.25	Tadpole races
6.30-8:30	Club races

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

**Contact Details:** emails for club information: [ironsideSwimClub@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:barrys@qldcricket.com.au) with the child's name and the events requested.

## Shop Rosters

Date	Tuckshop
Mon 16/3	Shobha Rooney, Sema Canbulat, Penny Garnett
Tues 17/3	Claire Smith, Nicci Wackwitz (9:45 am—11:15 am)
Wed 18/3	Caroline Hines, Mandy Peden, Charlise Smith
Thurs 19/3	Rie Ojima, Midori Kinoshita, Michiyo Okamura, Hiromi Nagamoto

Date	Homebake
Mon 16/3	Vicki Schubert, Shiu Fong Lowe
Tues 17/3	Celia Wickramasekera, Karen Moritz
Wed 18/3	Mary Burrell
Thurs 19/3	Lisa Fogden, Bianca Phillips

### Menu Changes

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

Tuckshop Volunteers required for : 1st Tuesday, 1st Wednesday and 3rd Tuesday

