

Ironside State School

2 Hawken Drive St Lucia QLD 4067

Telephone: 07 3258 3111

Facsimile: 07 3258 3100

Web: www.ironsidess.eq.edu.au

Newsletter Date 19 March 2009

Edition 8



Important Dates:

Saturday 21 March

Wednesday 25 March

Monday 6 April

Tuesday 7 April

Tuesday 7 April

Thursday 9 April

Harmony Day

Ride to School Day

Junior Band Workshop

(all day)

Strings Cushion Concert

6:00 pm

Years 4—7 Cross Country

Easter Hat Parade



Dear Parents

Congratulations to our 2009 School Captains and Vice Captains:

Lara Matthews, Suvradip Maitra, April Travis and Archira Samaratinga. The students were presented with their badges at a special investiture ceremony on Monday, attended by the Executive Director of Brisbane Central and West District – Mr David Curran. The school was entertained by the Senior String Chamber Orchestra and the Senior Choir. Congratulations to all our students who demonstrated excellent behaviour at this special ceremony.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

As the end of Term One is approaching, our class teachers will be contacting parents to arrange times for parent teacher meetings. It is very important that parents attend these meetings, so that our teachers can discuss student progress for the first quarter of the school year. Thank you to our staff who arrange the meetings in their own time outside school hours and appreciate parents making sure that they are on time.

SPECIAL VISIT

On Monday 16 March, we received a visit from Professor Geoff Masters and his colleagues. Professor Masters is Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Council for Educational Research and has been contracted by Education Queensland to lead a review into Literacy and Numeracy standards throughout the State. Our school was nominated as an excellent example – in both curriculum development, internal monitoring and classroom teaching practices. It was a pleasure to outline to Professor Masters some of the great programs and academic outcomes that we have at Ironside.

Patricia Neate
Principal

News from Mrs Ruddick-McGrath

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we are considering starting Book Club here at Ironside. To date we have one parent who is interested in helping but would like to have at least two parents to assist. If you are interested or would like to know more about how you can help, please contact me on 3258 3111 or e-mail me on jrudd10@eq.edu.au so that I can then set up a meeting to discuss what is required.

HARMONY DAY 2009

The Australian Government has set aside Saturday 21 March for all Australians to celebrate Harmony Day. Harmony Day is an opportunity for people to come together and show their support for one another. Harmony Day also seeks to engage all Australians in a celebration of the essentially cohesive and inclusive nature of our country and to promote the benefits, both social and economic of cultural diversity. Posters depicting Harmony Day have been placed around the school. For further information please see www.harmony.gov.au

P&C Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM is on Tuesday, 31 March at 7pm in the school staffroom. All membership applications will be accepted at this meeting and all executive positions will become vacant. Please come along to nominate for a position or to vote. It would be great to have Vice Presidents appointed from every year level!

We will have drinks and nibbles before we get into the serious proceedings and the ordinary monthly meeting will follow the AGM.

Marion Lawie
Ironsides P&C

Ride To School Day

Ride To School Day is on Wednesday 25 March 2009. To celebrate this day please come along and join in the fun. All active travelers who cycle to School (or walk if you would rather) are invited to a breakfast at 8:00 am in the Oasis. Fresh fruit, buns and drinks will be provided.

Peter Henderson
David Russell



JAPAN STUDY TOUR 2009

Thank you to the students and their parent who attended the first Japan Study Tour Information Meeting in the Hall last night. A newsletter with a summary of important information shared at the meeting will be sent home early next week.

2009 EASTER HAT PARADE AND CONCERT

Please note the date and times for the 2009 Easter Hat Parade and Concerts.
Thursday 9 April at 11:30 am – Prep and Year One Easter Hat Parade in the Hall
Thursday 9 April at 2:00 pm – Year 2 and 3 Easter Concert in the Hall.
You are all welcome to attend these two special events.

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.

CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING

Training before school on a Wednesday is going well. However, if you are up for a run with your child you are more than welcome to join them. 7:30 am on the Oval.

Cross Country

The ISS cross country, on Tuesday 7 April, is quickly drawing near. Permission and medical forms will go out shortly. To aid our preparations I ask that all students who suffer from Asthma ensure that they bring their inhalers as well as students who use an EpiPen ensure that it is not past its used by date.

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 it functionality. As such, there may be occasional delays with email and other electronic forms of communication. Your patience is much appreciated.

Religious Education

Religious education will finish on Friday 3 April and will recommence 24 April.

Holidays

Autumn Holiday Dates : 10—20 April 2009.
20 April 2009 Pupil Free Day.

Adam Knights
Deputy Principal

News from Ms Wagener

Curriculum Information

How you can help your child with writing

Continuing with our focus on daily writing here are some further tips to help your child.

One of the best ways to help your child with writing is to encourage them to use real occasions in family life to practise. This can include writing notes, messages, reminders or even helping to keep a family diary.

Book Drive

Many articles regarding the Victorian Bushfires have appeared in our news reports on TV, newspapers and radio. They have taken many lives, houses schools and animals. Ironside is looking for as many ways as we can find to help the victims of this tragic event. The library monitors of Ironside have agreed on the idea of starting a book drive for the children of the bush fires. I bet everyone at home has some books they have read and are looking for a new home or have some children's books they have grown out of. We would be grateful for all donations of books to help restart school libraries for the students of the Victorian bushfires.

This drive is starting on the 16th of March and finishing on the 3rd of April. The donations box will be located in the school library.

Any enquiries please see Ms Cath Roche, teacher librarian.

Thalia P
Library Monitor



Here are some other ways to help your child with their writing:

- if they are unsure of how to spell certain words, encourage them to have a go. Keep a dictionary close by and start a spelling list
- read your child's writing and discuss what you like about it. This makes writing fun and encourages children to keep writing
- if possible, give examples of your own writing to your child to show how it is important in your daily life and your work
- talk to your children about the types of writing they do at school and praise their efforts as well as correcting grammar or spelling
- encourage them to use a computer keyboard if there is one available
- encourage your child to make greeting cards for special times of the year and suggest they write their own verses or messages when reading their draft writing and commenting on what you like about it, remember not to change the writing. Leave all the creative decisions to the writer.

Enjoy!

Richenda Wagener
Head of Curriculum

Year Five News

The Year 5 students have been looking at each section of a narrative and how to best present this for the reader. Recently we focussed on describing the setting and 'painting a picture with our words', ensuring the reader would be able to envisage the setting. Here is some wonderful work from our students.

The Waterfall

The cool breeze across a waterfall pulls the moist air across my face. As the salmon come to this waterfall every year, they leap. Their leap is like the leap of faith to determine life or death. Eagles soar above the water look for fresh salmon to stalk. The powerful legs of an Eagle thrust forward to catch its victim.

The crushing noise of the waterfall sounds like Robbins tweeting in a birdbath. The thousands of litres of water pass through every year, at this calm waterfall.

As the sun sets across the waterfall, it paints the sky orange like a blooming flower in spring. The full moon is spreading its moonlight across the water making a pool of shiny water reflections.

As the sun is raising in the sky, the waterfall looks its best. The rocks soon heat up. Lizards are attracted to the warm, soon hot rocks that they sunbake on.

Puntira Lin 5B

The Beach,

All around me is the crashing of waves. Gentle, smooth and relaxing. I can smell the salty scent of the sea.

In the morning, the light of the waves are shimmering like the reflection of a gem. Everything slowly awakes peacefully.

The brightness of midday appears, slow and steady. The sun is strong like a flaming torch. Hermit crabs crawl out and lie on the burning rocks. Playful fish swim about from place to place.

The calmness of sunset ends the day by painting the sky orange. It is as beautiful as fireworks exploding. It is quiet as the moon shimmer on the water. Romantic and Spectacular.

Akash Rooney 5B

Swim Club News

The Swim Club season is nearly over and Club Championships are only 2 weeks away. Please nominate your intention to swim at Club Championships on Friday night and take advantage of the “warm up” lanes during the free swim session.

Club Championships are held over two nights.

Thursday 2 nd April	Warm up 6 pm Races commence 6.30 pm	Medley; Backstroke and Butterfly only	No BBQ available
Friday 3 April	Warm up 6 pm Races commence 6.30 pm	Freestyle and Breas- troke events	No BBQ available

Swimmers compete with their own group. Please refer to the club handbook if you have any questions or speak to a committee member on Friday night.

Please mark your calendar **Wednesday 8 April is Awards Night**. Who will be points Champion? Who will become age champion in each group? Can't wait to find out!

Awards night will commence at 6.30 pm in the hall. Please note **NO BBQ will be available**.

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

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 23/3	Maria Clark, Amanda Teo, Melissa Morrison
Tues 24/3	Shizuho Yamamoto, Tomoka Yoshida, Akane Okutsu
Wed 25/3	Windy Wu, Hera Mason, Kathy Lathauras
Thurs 26/3	Miranda Dunning, Joan Schubert, Ruth Whitehill

Date	Homebake
Mon 23/3	Anne Riachi
Tues 24/3	Marg Rackemann, Claire Smith
Wed 25/3	Stephanie Twigg, Kathy Lathauras
Thurs 26/3	Linda Richards



Lost Property

Parents, please check the lost property box regularly and make sure that anything sent to school has a family name on it. All towels, lunch boxes, drink bottles, caps etc. will be disposed of at the end of the term if it is not claimed or no clear name is visible.

Tuckshop and Uniform Shop vacancies—please see Jane at the Tuckshop.

Homebake Volunteers required - please see Jane at the Tuckshop.



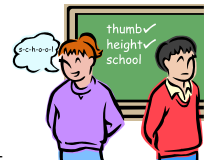
Ironside State School Spelling Bee

As part of our school commitment to literacy we have had a focus on spelling. We have decided to add a 'fun' element to our school calendar and as a result we will be holding a Spelling Bee.

The following information is an outline of how our inaugural school spelling bee will operate.

1. The Spelling Bee Competition involves students from Year 3 to Year 7
2. EACH class will conduct their own 'in class' testing to determine their THREE best spellers.
3. Those 3 best spellers from each class will then have a "spell off" (see 'rules' below) to determine the best team to represent their year level.
4. Each team of three (Yr 3-7) will receive a "Best in Yr Level" award.
5. We will then hold a whole school "Spell Off" with each of these year level representatives as a member of a team.
6. Students in Year 3, 4 and 5 will reconfigure their teams so that there is one student from each Yr level on the team (i.e. team = 1xYr3, 1xYr4, 1xyYr5)
7. Students in Year 6 and Year 7 will stay as a Yr 6 team and as a Year 7 team (i.e. team= 3xYr6, team=3xYr7)
8. Thus there will be 5 student teams.

To add some "entertainment" to the final "spell off" we will have a staff team and would like to invite nominations from the P & C to form a team.



"Spell Off" - Rules

1. All teams of three will have a small whiteboard, eraser and pen (per team). The SAME WORD will be given to each team at the same time.
 - a. **A word is pronounced**, contestants write it down as individuals on their piece of paper, they confer with their team mates and then reach an agreed spelling of the word. This is then written on the small whiteboard.
 - b. If the word is a homophone the word will be given in a sentence.
- Teams may request the word to be put into a sentence, the definition of the word and/or the origin of the word.

After a reasonable time is given to write the word, one of the scorers rings a bell. The teams then **display their final answer**.

IF the team displays the CORRECT answer the team will be awarded THREE points.

IF the team displays the INCORRECT answer then the team will be awarded PART points if individual team members spelt the word correctly on their piece of paper (i.e. if two people in the team spelt the word correctly on their paper the team will receive TWO points, if one person in the team spelt the word correctly on their paper the team will receive ONE point).

The team with the highest score at the end of X rounds will be declared the winner.

Classes from year 3 to year 7 are currently determining their best spellers to represent their class and then the year level. Our FINAL will be held during Week 11.

Stay tuned for further updates!

Richenda Wagener





Mothers Day Stall

With the support of our Ironside families, our Mother's Day stall has been running successfully for many years. The children really enjoy shopping "secretly" for Mums and Grandmas!

Each year we look for donations of handmade gifts. However, if these gifts are not sufficient, we will have to purchase gifts to sell and this of course eats into our profits. If anyone is crafty or has some ideas please contact our committee. We would love to hear from you.

This year's stall will be held on Thursday 7th May and Friday 8th May from 8.15am until the end of morning tea.

Some Gift Ideas for your donation to our stall: Gourmet Teas, coffee, soap, face washers, tea towels, gardening gloves (perhaps for Grandma) NEW nail polish, lipstick, candles, boxes of chocolates, body lotions, bath oils, hand lotions, homemade biscuits, cakes or slices (to be brought up to the stall on the day) homemade jewellery.

A collection box will be in the library. We are now collecting your lovely gifts.

If you are able to help, please let Amanda Teo, amandateo07@hotmail.com or come to the meeting or wrapping day below.

Next Meeting: Friday, 3rd April in the Library at 2pm.

Wrapping day: Friday, 1st May in the tuckshop from 8.30am.