



# Crows Nest State School

## **NEWSLETTER**

Tel: (07) 4698 3111 / Fax: (07) 4698 3100

Web: [www.crownestss.eq.edu.au](http://www.crownestss.eq.edu.au) / Email: [admin@crownestss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@crownestss.eq.edu.au)

**Edition 7**

**10/03/09**

**Principal:** Scott Edmunds  
**Deputy Principal:** Kaarin Grinstead  
**Head of Department:** Justin Kummerow  
**Head of Curriculum:** Claire Thicthener  
**Head of Special Education:** Louise Leggett  
**Business Services Manager:**

**P&C Email:** [pandc@crownestss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@crownestss.eq.edu.au)

**Student Absences Email:**  
[admin@crownestss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@crownestss.eq.edu.au)

**Office Hours:** 8:00am - 4:00pm

### **Principal's Message**

#### **Year 7/8 Camp Information Evening**

Parents are invited to an Information Evening for students who will be attending the Year 7/8 Camp to Sydney and Canberra. The meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 March 2009 from 6:30pm - 7:30pm in the staffroom in the Administration Block.

#### **Numeracy tips for parents and carers to help high school students**

To support your high school student's efforts at school you can continue the lessons they learn in the classroom by helping them to develop their numeracy skills at home.

Some activities you could do include:

- asking for their help when using a map or street directory to travel to a new destination
- planning a family holiday including budget and travel times
- discussing what measurements you need for decorating or renovating a room. For example, "what measurements do we need to make when buying a desk?" and "do we need to measure or will estimating be acceptable?"
- when assembling furniture read the assembly instructions and relate them to the real object. Discuss how two-dimensional drawings are related to three-dimensional items
- draw and discuss plans related to landscaping decisions around the home
- discuss the implications of time issues related to overseas locations
- use computer packages that create virtual rooms to help visualise what a room would look like, if planning renovations.

For more information about how you can help your child with literacy and numeracy visit [www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map)

### **Flick the switch for Earth Hour**

For one hour, from 8.30pm to 9.30pm, 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.

To find out more about the projects, competitions and events throughout this year, go to the YOC website at: [www.yearofcreativity.deta.qld.gov.au](http://www.yearofcreativity.deta.qld.gov.au)

### **Thought for the Week**

Success comes in cans, not cannots.

Regards,

Scott Edmunds  
Principal



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### **Living With Your Teen**

#### Tip 2: Listen To Them

Young people often when talking to parents get advice, reassurance or a sermon before they really say how they feel.

This stops communication and discourages teens finding their own way to deal with problems.

Most helpful responses show interest and open ways for your teen to talk, eg.

- How come?
- You must have felt ...
- Wow!
- That sounds exciting ...

### **Debbie (Youth Health Nurse)**

#### **Student of the Week/Academic Award**

Congratulations to the Week 7 recipients.

#### *Student of the Week*

1-3	Ryan Christensen - working really hard on his sounds
1-3	Jack Sullivan - always having a positive attitude
1-3 areas	Shobelle Root - working well in all areas
4/5C effort	Bianca Foster - making that extra effort
4/5N best effort	Georgia Smith - always giving her best effort
4/5N high standard	Hannah Emmert - working to a very high standard
5/6N	Dylan Gardner - making a great effort and producing high quality work
6/7C	Erik Genrich - trying hard in class
6/7N times	Maizie Adams - trying her best at all times

### **Darling Downs Swimming**

Congratulations to Todd White who last week competed at the Darling Downs swimming selection trials in Gatton. Todd was selected in the u12 boys team in 50m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke, and 50m Backstroke and will now travel to Cairns for the State Championships from the 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Inner Downs Basketball**

Well done to Ellen Kolarski who was selected in the u15 Inner Downs Basketball team last week at trials in

Oakey. Ellen will compete at the Darling Down trials on the 28<sup>th</sup> April.

### **P & C News**

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30 pm. Please consider who you would like to nominate for the positions of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Membership Applications will be accepted at the AGM without applicants attending the meeting. Those applying for membership after the AGM must attend a P&C meeting for their application to be accepted.

A new membership form needs to be completed each calendar year. Please return forms to the school. Unsigned forms will not be accepted.

Please notify me about items for the agenda. So far, they include:

agenda items,

meeting duration,

P&C & sub committee accountability,

fridges in classrooms,

safety colour on uniform.

Sharyn Macdonald

Secretary

### **Schools Sustainability and Leadership Workshop**

On Friday 6 and Saturday 7 March Crows Nest State School hosted a workshop for students and staff from Ballandean, Teelba and Mary McKillop. All visitors were most impressed with our school, students and hospitality. Eight Year Six and Seven students represented our school at this workshop. Congratulations to Kristina McGreevy, Tabitha Tindall, Matt Pallister, Isaac Scheffe, Bryce Freeman, Hayden Fowler, Rebecca Smith and Holly Thorpe who participated. These students have identified issues they would like to see addressed at our school. Energy Use, Transport, Waste, Biodiversity and Water Efficiency are some of the aspects in which they hope to lead change in our school. The next step is for the students to meet with Mr Edmunds and Ms Grinstead to discuss their proposal.

### **Year 6/7C Landcare**

THANK YOU to all parents who assisted with baking or working to provide catering for the Schools Sustainability and Leadership Workshop. Everyone was well fed and very appreciative! Our efforts have raised around \$600. Wow!

**Lee Reushle**



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### **What is a Gifted Child? - trying to define the beast**

A good question to start with. The word "gifted" has been defined differently by different academics and practitioners and is often considered by many to be an unfortunate term, but it has become generally associated with a child whose potential in one or more areas of skill would place him or her in the top 2-5% of children of the same age. Notice that this does not assume a narrow view of academic intelligence - the areas of skill can be traditionally academic, or creative, intrapersonal etc.

A United States Office of Education definition ([Marland, 1982](#)) suggests gifted and talented students are those "who have outstanding abilities, are capable of high performance and who require differentiated educational programs (beyond those normally provided by regular school programs) in order to realise their contribution to self and society".

The same source suggests demonstrated achievement or potential ability can be in:

- general intellectual ability
- specific academic aptitude
- creative or productive thinking
- leadership ability

- visual and performing arts
- psychomotor abilities

This idea of different types of gifts has been developed by Howard Gardner in his theory of multiple intelligences. The key point is to realise that gifts and gifted children don't all come in the same box, their gifts and talents may be across many fields or particular to one. And gifted children can have learning difficulties or disabilities too. A child may have an extraordinary talent in reading and comprehension but need remediation in mathematics or therapy to assist writing skills.

Crow's Nest State School staff and students will be taking time, over the next few months, to explore these notions and take action on Education Queensland's Gifted and Talented Students Action Plan 2008 – 2010. Thank you to the parents who have already met with me to discuss this important goal. I welcome all opinions and views on this matter and am keen to hear your experiences.

Information in this article has been taken from: <http://nswagtc.org.au/index.php>

Kaarin Grinstead- Deputy Principal

#### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**16 March**

Inner Downs Basketball

**31 March – 3 April**

Year 5 Camp  
Sunday Creek

**8 April**

School Cross Country

**6,7,8 April**

Parent Teacher Interviews

**9 April**

Last day of Term

**Tuckshop  
Group 1  
11 March**

#### **Workers**

Karran Simpson  
Georgie Edser  
Donna Battams  
Carolyn Asher

#### **Suppliers**

*Patty Cakes*- Linda Christensen  
*Slice*- Gillian Nelson



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