



Crows Nest State School

NEWSLETTER

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Edition 15

12/05/09

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

Principal's Message

Arrangements for teacher strike - Tuesday 19 May

I wish to inform all parents and carers that the Queensland Teachers' Union announced on Monday 11 May that a statewide, 24-hour strike will take place in Queensland state schools on Tuesday 19 May.

This affects our school because some teachers are likely to take part in this industrial action, along with their colleagues across the state.

I want to assure our school community that despite the strike, which runs all day on Tuesday 19 May, our school will be open to students on this day.

We will put in place special supervisory arrangements during the normal school hours on Tuesday 19 May to ensure the safety of all students, as this is our highest priority. It is likely that regular classroom activity will be disrupted.

Strike action is being taken in pursuit of a new salary package for teachers.

Please contact the school office with any queries that you may have regarding the strike and the impact it may have for your family.

Influenza A (Swine Flu) and good hygiene tips

Queensland Health has advised it is "business as usual" for schools after the confirmation of Australia's first case of the new strain of Influenza A (otherwise referred to as Human Swine Influenza) on Saturday 9 May 2009.

Good hygiene practices while coughing or sneezing, and regular hand-washing, are major factors in preventing the spread of any infection including Influenza A.

However as parents and carers of young children, we all understand how difficult it can be to get kids to

wash their hands at the correct times – and to do it properly!

A helpful information sheet about sanitary hand-washing techniques is available at www.education.qld.gov.au/health/pdfs/healthsafety/hand-wash-solutions.pdf

NAPLAN tests

Like all schools nationwide, some of our students are participating in the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests this week (12 - 14 May).

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be assessed in the areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. Within the Numeracy test Year 7 and 9 students undertake a calculator-allowed test, followed by a non-calculator test.

We expect that the test results will be sent to our school in September this year, and an individual NAPLAN report for each student will be sent home. These confidential reports will show your child's results against key national information in each year level.

Our school will use the information in a number of ways, primarily to better identify students requiring additional support, and to identify strengths and improvement areas in teaching programs.

While the NAPLAN report is an important measure of how all students are performing, it is important to remember that it is only one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process.

It does not replace the more extensive and informed judgements made by our highly skilled and experienced teachers.

It is important that students receive ongoing support at home throughout the year in developing literacy and numeracy skills. For tips and information please visit www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map

For information about NAPLAN tests please visit www.naplan.edu.au

Have your say on the Queensland Education Performance Review

Parents, caregivers and other members of our school community are encouraged to provide feedback on Professor Geoff Masters' recommendations for improving education outcomes in Queensland's primary schools.

His final report, *A Shared Challenge: Improving Literacy, Numeracy and Science Learning in Queensland Primary Schools*, was presented to the Premier of Queensland Anna Bligh and Education and Training Minister Geoff Wilson on 1 May.

Professor Masters' report contains five key recommendations to improve the performance of Queensland primary schools in literacy, numeracy and science.

They are:

1. That all aspiring primary teachers be required to demonstrate through test performances, as a condition of registration, that they meet threshold levels of knowledge about the teaching of literacy, numeracy and science and have sound levels of content knowledge in these areas.
2. That the Queensland Government introduces a new structure and program of advanced professional learning in literacy, numeracy and science for primary school teachers.
3. That additional funding be made available for the advanced training and employment of a number of 'specialist' literacy, numeracy and science teachers to work in schools (and/or district offices) most in need of support.
4. That standard science tests be introduced at Years 4, 6, 8 and 10 for school use in identifying students who are not meeting year-level expectations and for monitoring student progress over time.
5. That the Queensland Government initiates an expert review of international best practice in school leadership development with a view to introducing a new structure and program of advanced professional learning for primary school leaders focused on effective strategies for driving improved school performances in literacy, numeracy and science.

You can read the final report and have your say on the recommendations by visiting the Queensland Education Performance Review website at www.education.qld.gov.au/mastersreview

The consultation period closes on Friday 29 May.

Thought for the Week

Attitude is the mind's paintbrush, it can colour any situation.

Regards,



Scott Edmunds
Principal

Student of the Week/Academic Award

Congratulations to the Week 3 recipients.

Student of the Week

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1-3 | Christina Genrich - being helpful in the classroom |
| 1-3 | Tessa Gossow - being helpful in the classroom |
| 1-3 | Amber Dempsey - being helpful in the classroom |
| 1-3 | Daniel Nothdurft - being helpful in the classroom |
| 4/5C | Beau Crook - being a consistent worker |
| 4/5C | Thomas Blanck - always giving 100% in class |
| 4/5C | Shaylah Dempsey - being a hard working class member |
| 4/5N | Beth Eldridge - improved handwriting efforts |
| 4/5N | Judah Salt - improved spelling efforts |
| 5/6S | Ricky Gustafson - consistent effort and perseverance with all school work |
| 6/7N | Hayden Fowler - an outstanding effort on your Toys and Games project |
| 6/7N | Holly Thorpe - an outstanding effort on your Toys and Games project |
| 6/7N | Dallas Vonhoff - an outstanding effort on your Toys and Games project |
| 6/7N | Emily Kahler - an outstanding effort on your Toys and Games project |
| | Rebecca Smith - an outstanding effort on your Toys and Games project |

Academic Awards

- | | |
|---|---|
| 8 | Reanna McGreevy - outstanding 'Ancient Civilisation' assessment |
| 8 | Daniel Reinke - exceptional results for Fraction assessment |
| 8 | Alex Goostrey - exceptional results for Fraction assessment |
| 8 | Karen Berry - exceptional results for Fraction assessment |



Congratulations to the Week 4 recipients.

Student of the Week

4/5C Corey Plant - great effort in school work



EMERGENCY CONTACT UPDATES

Parents are requested to update all student information and emergency contact details if they have changed.

We need this information to be accurate so we can contact you in the event that your child becomes ill or injured.

P&C Meeting

Tuesday evening, 19th May 2009. 7.30pm Admin building

HELP!!! We need a secretary, It's not hard, I will help you through it, Come on give it a go, You will be helping your children and the community.

Agenda Items : Storage shed
Outdoor covered area.

Sport Representatives

Over the last weeks of term 1 and through the beginning weeks of term 2 the following students have been selected to represent the Northern Downs Zone and Inner Downs Zone in a variety of sports. These students have represented or will represent their zone at Darling Downs trials hoping to make the Darling Downs Team to compete at State Titles.

Northern Downs Cross Country – Marty Edser, Hannah Emmert, Lindsay Blinco, Holly Thorpe, Emily Kalher, Emma Baker, Lily Goddard, Monique Edser and Camille Kohler

Inner Downs Hockey – Peter Rose

Inner Downs Tennis – Lily Goddard, Sarah Weimers

Inner Downs Touch – Ben Littleton, Mathew Chambers, Trent Mcquire-Spalding

Inner Downs Rugby League – Ben Littleton, Todd White

Inner Downs Basketball – Ellen Kolarski

Congratulations to Ben Littleton who was selected into the Darling Downs Team in Rugby League and Touch. Ben will travel to Cairns and Townsville to compete at the State Titles.

Loud Shirt Day and Sausage Sizzle

Don't forget to dust off your best loud shirts, socks, hats and ties for our Student Council's Loud Shirt Day this Friday, 15th May. Our fantastic dress sense will help support hearing impaired students through the Hear and Say Institute which provides cochlear implants for children. Thank you to the many people who have placed their orders for lunch on Friday. Orders for Friday's sausage sizzle lunch closed today but our Deputy Principal, Mrs Littleton, will look after any late orders as long as they are **in by tomorrow, Wednesday, 13th May**. Please write your order on a brown paper bag or envelope and send it along to Mrs Littleton at the office. A VERY BIG THANK YOU goes to our local IGA who are supporting us with the generous donation of bread and to Mr Wayne Smith for his support of the Student Council's activities.

**Tuckshop
Group 1
13 May**

Workers

Kaaran Simpson
Georgie Edser
Donna Battams
Carolyn Asher

Suppliers

Patty Cakes- Joanne Brackenbury
Slice- Gillian Nielsen