Principal’s Messages ~ Well done to students, staff and parents for an excellent start to the school year.

A Fantastic Start
Thank-you to all families for helping to make the start of school as smooth as possible. Students settled in well last week, and we are quickly into school and learning routines.

School Permissions Form
Included with this week’s Informer are permission, consent and medical forms for completion and return to school. Many thanks.

Classes
Our school staffing is confirmed upon the enrolment numbers at the end of this week. At this stage, we look good to retain our present staff, however we are just on the threshold and need everyone ‘on deck’ for the count. If we do keep all of our current teachers, class sizes will be very positive (not too large!). Thanks for your support.

Homework Program
Parents, please refer over the page to the general information regarding homework at Kolan South. Individual teachers will communicate regarding specific class homework routines.

Homework is not meant to be an onerous task however we all know that it can be a source of difficulty for students or families depending on circumstances. Please see your teacher if you have any concerns to do with homework.

Contact Information
Parents, please contact the school office if you have any change to contact details, address, phone numbers, etc.

Instrumental Music Commences
Instrumental Music teacher, Christine Buwalda, commences with instrumental music students this Thursday, 6 February.

After School Programs
After School programs commence in Week 4 of this term. Registration forms will be sent home, next week. The programs will be:
- Mondays  Mod Cricket  3.00-4.00  Prep to 7
- Wednesdays  Table Tennis  3.00-4.00  Year 4 to 7

P&C Meeting
Our first P&C meeting for this year will be held next Tuesday afternoon, 11 February, commencing at 5.00 pm in the library. The Annual General Meeting, and election of the Executive for 2014, will occur prior to the general meeting. Items for discussion include P&C activities for this year. All parents are welcome.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Spelling
Parents, included with the newsletter is a list of important words that children normally use in their writing. We are using this list at school to support classroom and individual spelling lists.

Number Facts and Mental Maths
Please encourage children to be using mental maths at every opportunity at home. Research is telling us that we use mental calculations more than 80% of the time. How would you work these calculations out in your head?

98 + 78
92 – 26
19 x 25
95 ÷ 5

Reading at Kolan South
Our teachers teach reading through a range of instructional methods. These include:
- Reading aloud to students
- Modelled reading lessons with the teacher
- Shared reading sessions
- Guided reading lessons with the teacher or teacher aide
- Independent reading

A huge thank-you to Brian Terry and the Terry family for our new school signs. They look terrific. Thanks, Brian.

Jeff Searle

SCHOOL CALENDAR
Feb 11 (Tue)  P&C AGM  5.00pm
Feb 17 (Mon)  After School Sport commences
Feb 21 (Fri)  Yr 1-3 Swimming commences
Mar 17 (Mon)  Artslink Performance ~ The Box
Mar 24—28  Parent / Teacher Meetings
Apr 4 (Fri)  Last day of term

Weekly Assembly
Our weekly Assembly is on Thursday mornings from 9.00 to 9.30 in the library. All parents are very welcome to attend assembly.
BIRTHDAYS
February
4 Simran P, 11 Riley H
13 Cody R, 14 Amber B, Kaelin H
17 Brayden W, 22 Carlos O
23 Larissa B, Ethan R, 24 Indyelle Z 27 Isobel M, Laura M, 28 William M

ICE CUPS ON FRIDAYS
Frozen cordial cups will be on sale each Friday for 50 cents. Funds raised go towards end of year excursions. Your support will be much appreciated. Thank you.

HOMEWORK AT KOLAN SOUTH

PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK
At Kolan South, we believe that Homework is important for these reasons:

- The tasks provide practice and support for learning in the classroom.
- Homework focuses on the essential basics of literacy and numeracy.
- Homework encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Students will be well-prepared for future homework and study expectations as they move through to high school.

Kolan South is focused on developing positive attitudes to the completion of homework, with particular attention to reading in the younger year levels.

WHEN?
Homework will be handed out on different days, depending on the classroom.

Reading
Prep to Year 3 students will receive levelled home readers for them to complete as a part of set homework. Year 4 to 7 students will be expected to read a reading log for recording their home reading which is usually their current novel or library book. Year 4 students may continue to have home readers in the transition to independent reading.

Spelling and Vocabulary
Students will be provided with a weekly list which corresponds to the words practised in class, as well as personal words catering to individual needs.

Writing and Language Conventions
Depending on the year level, students may have some brief language tasks that support their language development.

Maths
Year 3 to 7 students will be placed on a maths homework level that corresponds to their ability. Younger year levels will have some simple activities that support their basic numeracy development. The instant recall of basic facts over the four operations (+, -, x, ÷) is an important goal by Year 7. Any practice at home will help school efforts.

Other Reading
The school is not, and should not be, the only source of reading material for students. Reading books from home or libraries, newspapers, even information on the internet is reading. Parents, if you can make time to read to your children, the benefits are significant. Thank-you.

BUNDABERG JUNIOR TENNIS

TENNIS LESSONS
The Bundaberg & District Junior Tennis Association Inc. Rotary Park Tennis complex, 69b George Street, South Bundaberg MLC Tennis Hot Shots Learning, commences week of 3rd February 2014 at with Bundaberg Tennis Academy Professional Coaches, Murray Whitbread and Kevin Banner. All ages are catered for. Group & Private Lessons are available. "Super Sunday, Family Sign-on" will be held Sunday 9th February 2014.

For further information and to Register your child's name please contact either Murray 0407 639824 or Kevin 4152 0753 / 0409 520753. Come n- See what is on offer at the club!

TENNIS
"Super Sunday, Family Sign-on" will be held Sunday 9th February 2014 from 2pm to 5pm at the Bundaberg & District Junior Tennis Association Inc. Rotary Park Tennis complex, 69b George Street, South Bundaberg. Have a great day of tennis and sign-up for MLC Hot Shots Learning; MLC Hot Shots Games; All standards of Junior Learning; Junior competitions; Adult Day & Social Night Tennis; Ladies competition; Adult Cardio Tennis; Court Hire - all in a fun-filled environment.

For further information please contact Bundaberg Tennis Academy Professional Coaches, Kevin Banner 4152 0753 / 0409 520753 or Murray 0407 639824.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY

Make Your Place Their Second Home
World EducaKgFC5on Program (WEP) is inviKgFC5ng Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes...