Good News
Thankfully, we have passed the Day 8 student count with sufficient enrolments to keep all of our teachers. This is a huge relief for us. We can now get on with our work, and focus on the task of teaching and learning, without further disruption. Thank-you to all families for your support for our school. We are looking forward to another terrific year of growth and achievement at Kolan South.

Student Leaders
Congratulations to newly-elected student leaders for 2014, Lara Benecke and Simran Prasad (School Captains), Jane Arnot and Dane Myers (School Vice-Captains), and House Captains Mitchell Duffy and Riley Hammelswing (Beauly), Bailee Taylor and Kai Edwards (Gibson), and Desiree Christen and Britani Jones (Thompson).

The presentation of student leaders will occur at Assembly in the next couple of weeks. More information, soon.

Tuckshop Commences
Tuckshop commences this Wednesday, 12 February. A tuckshop menu is included with this Informer. Please also refer to the information on the back of the menu page regarding ordering procedure.

Tuckshop Volunteers needed
Included with this week’s newsletter is a request form for volunteers. Please consider helping out with Tuckshop. It is a terrific highlight for the students and a steady fundraiser for our school, however we need volunteers to make it viable. Many thanks again to Janelle Duffy, who does a brilliant job as our convenor, and those parents who have already expressed interest in volunteering in 2014.

Absence Notes
Included with today’s newsletter are some absence notes that you can use to notify the school of the reason for a student’s absence.

Late Arrival or Early Departure
Parents, if a student is arriving late or departing early, you are requested to pop in to the office to sign the register and notify the admin staff. Your assistance here is appreciated.

After School Programs
After School Programs will commence, next week. The registration form, which is being sent home today, must be returned to school for participation in the program.

Principal’s Messages ~ Thanks to all of the parents who have been attending our weekly assembly on Thursdays.

P&C Meeting
Our first P&C meeting for this year will be held tomorrow 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 invited to attend, and most welcome.

Swimming
This term, students in Year 1/2, 2/3 and 3/4 will participate in the swimming program commencing next Friday, 21 Feb. Cost this year will again be $3 per week (for 6 weeks). Next week there will be some information regarding swimming arrangements.

Extra Funding
A recent announcement indicated that State schools will be receiving a special grant – for the lower school, to improve outcomes. Our grant for Kolan South will be approximately $30 000. This will be very welcome. We will be submitting a plan in the next couple of weeks for the use of these funds. More information in coming weeks.

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEY
At Kolan South, the 2013 Student School Opinion Survey produced very positive results, as shown below:

♦ 100% of students who completed the survey said Kolan South is a ‘good school’.
♦ 100% of students who completed the survey said they were getting a ‘good education’ at Kolan South.
♦ 100% of students who completed the survey said that student behaviour was well-managed at Kolan South.

Jeff Searle
25 GREAT PARENTING IDEAS

Focus on one idea a day to transform your parenting in less than a month (Cut out and put on fridge)

1. Do more things with kids than for them
2. If you want happy, resilient kids you go first
3. Raise your small family with a big family mindset
4. Invest in the opportunity years (before teens)
5. Focus on positive relationships with your children
6. Expect kids to behave well
7. Catch kids being resilient and persistent
8. Attend to your kids’ mental health
9. Don’t be a family that’s always ‘on the go’
10. Make sure kids help at home without being paid
11. Build scaffolds to independence
12. Reward responsibility with greater freedom
13. Build self-knowledge in kids
14. Move kids down the road from ‘me’ to ‘we’
15. Teach your kids to do what’s right, not what’s easy
16. Strengthen your family by creating a strong food culture
17. Create a culture where there’s nothing so bad that ‘we’ can’t talk ABOUT it
18. Parent from the same script, even if you’re not together
19. Do things with your kids
20. Don’t let kids drop out of the family
21. Connect with other parents
22. Every child needs someone in their life who says ‘You can do this’
23. Make the most of teachable moments
24. Avoid your first impulse when kids misbehave