KOLAN SOUTH INFORMER

No 2

Kolan South State School strives for a Quality Education for All Students  ~ Respect  ~ Responsibility  ~ Safety

Principal’s Messages  ~ Well done to students, staff and parents for an excellent start to the 2016 school year.

A Positive 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.

Classes
Our school staffing is confirmed upon the enrolment numbers at the end of this week.

Parents, if you are aware of anyone in our area who hasn’t yet started at school for 2016, or who will be moving to our area in the coming weeks, we need to make contact so that these enrolments can be taken into account. Thanks for your assistance.

Information Booklet
The School Information Booklet has been sent home today with the newsletter.

Permissions Form
Classes
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Parents, if you are aware of anyone in our area who hasn’t yet started at school for 2016, or who will be moving to our area in the coming weeks, we need to make contact so that these enrolments can be taken into account. Thanks for your assistance.

Information will be communicated next week confirming our staffing situation and class arrangements.

Homework Program
Parents, please refer over the page to the general information regarding homework at Kolan South. 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 specific circumstances. Please see your teacher if you have any concerns to do with homework.

Bus Committee Meeting
The Annual General Meeting of the conveyance committee will be held on Monday 15 February, in the library. The Annual General Meeting, and election of the Executive for 2016, will occur prior to the general meeting. Items for discussion include P&C activities for this year. All parents are welcome.

Tuckshop Information
We commence tuckshop this Wednesday, 3 February. Included with today’s newsletter is a menu and volunteer request form.

Let’s Stamp out Bullying
‘Let’s Stamp out Bullying’ is an Arts production being presented at St George Hall on Thursday, 3 March. Cost for families is $5 per student or family maximum of $10.

Payment envelopes will be sent home in a couple of weeks.

Information Booklet
The School Information Booklet has been sent home today with the newsletter.

Permissions Form
Parents, also included with the Informer is a permissions form which is to be returned to school as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Student Leaders
Year 6 Students nominating as student leaders for 2016 will talk briefly at this Thursday’s Assembly, and elections will be held on Friday. Best wishes to all nominees.

After School Program
This year, we will continue to run one After School Program each term. After School Games will commence in Week 4 of this term, and will only run for 4 weeks. Registration forms will be sent home, next week.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

TUCK SHOP Commences
P&C AGM and General Meeting
Bus Committee Meeting 4.15pm
Swimming commences Year 1, Year 2/3, Year 3/4
Let’s Stamp out Bullying — Arts Performance
Parent / Teacher Meetings
Last day of term / Interhouse Cross Country

Weekly Assembly
Assembly will commence this Thursday at 9.00am in the library.

See you there!
**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 6 students will be expected to complete 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**

Dependent on the year level, students may have some brief language tasks that support their language development.

**Maths**

Year 3 to 6 students will be placed on a maths homework level that corresponds to their ability. Younger year levels will have some brief language tasks that support their language development.

**Why reading stories matters**

Books help to develop your child’s language, knowledge and understanding, as they introduce young readers to a huge variety of new words and topics.

If your child is familiar with books and reading, they will be better prepared to take advantage of all learning.

Taking the time to read to your child, or introducing them to a number of different books, will make them more comfortable reading at school.

Reading is also a way for parents to spend quality time with their children and will help to build a stronger relationship between you and your child.

Children learn by example, so watching you read and talking together about reading will show your child that reading is a positive activity.

**Cross Country Training**

Students who wish to do well in our interhouse cross country event in March or have aspirations to compete at District or Zone level, need to be participating in at least 6 to 8 weeks of training to develop the required fitness levels.

If you are 10 to 12 years old this year, you could also be selected to compete at a representative level. Each year, we have had a number of students compete at Zone level, and even some go on to represent Bundaberg Zone and Wide Bay. Kolan South holds the Gin Gin District Cross Country ‘A Schools’ trophy.

Kolan South students will soon be commencing training at school, however students with ability are encouraged to do regular further training in out-of-school time, particularly in the cooler hours. After school training on the school oval can be negotiated if you contact Jeff Searle. Good luck with training. Run every day, if you can.

Interhouse Cross Country—Approximate Distances

- 5 & 6 Years—¾ km
- 9 & 10 Years—2 km

**Lost and Found**

An ‘Allweather’ Blanket left at Family Night 2015. Colour of bag is fawn colour. Please contact the

**Admin News & Info**

In the newsletter today you should receive a 2016 Parent/Guardian Permission Form (eldest in the family only). Would you kindly complete the form, including signature and date, and return to school by this Friday, 5 February. Thank you.

Also included in the newsletter is the 2016 Information Booklet. Please read the document as some details have changed from previous years and keep on hand as a handy reference.

If you have any queries regarding any of the above matters, please do not hesitate to contact Cheryl or Gail in Administration.

Thank-you for your assistance.