Dear Parents, Students and Kindon Community

We are back into the swing with our learning for Term 1. Students and teachers are well into our units of work. Mrs Robertson has been busy administering the Queensland Government Early Start program. This initiative provides the school with a method of monitoring learning and tracking progress of literacy and numeracy in the early years. We will use it to generate purposeful data about literacy and numeracy achievement and to measure academic growth starting with Prep this year and extending to Year 2 students over the next two years.

Many thanks to our wonderful community for your whole-hearted response to the plea for help deliver our maths program, STAMS (Strategies to Achieve Mathematics Success). The importance of wider involvement in our learning environment cannot be over-estimated and we are blessed at Kindon with a very responsive and involved community. Thank you all very much. We will be confirming groups and group leaders this week and will hand out Teacher Guides and Student Books next Monday, ready to commence Monday Week 4 (17th February).

The Queensland Government is investing an additional $131 million in 2014 to improve student performance in Queensland state schools through the Great Results Guarantee. Kindon State School will receive additional funding of $5,000 and we need to decide how we can use this money to better support our students and improve their outcomes. We are now working to develop our own Great Results Guarantee with evidence-based strategies and actions to improve literacy and numeracy. Read more about the guarantee at www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

If you have an idea on a way to support our students to learn more or if you would like to take part in the discussion please come to our P&C meeting.

Dale
This Week at School

Congratulations to our School Leaders, Braeden and Brannan.
They have already taken responsibility for many activities around the school.
We look forward to their Inauguration Speeches at Assembly next Monday, 10th February.

At Assembly this week we celebrated the achievements of Blake and Alison.
Blake knows all of his Gold Sight Words and Alison has completed a great first week in Prep.

Once again, Waggamba Landcare is running a school Landcare competition

The theme for 2014 is:

ENDANGERED ANIMALS OF MY COMMUNITY

Your school is invited to enter a project relating to this theme. All entries will be displayed at the Goondiwindi Show

Prizes will be awarded per school as follows:

School entry 1st prize $600
School entry 2nd prize $400
School entry 3rd prize $200
School News

In our Classrooms - a snapshot of learning planned this term

Maths: Years 3 and 4 are investigating units of time with connections between days, weeks and months. With place value, they are learning to represent 4 and 5 digit numbers. They are working with odd and even numbers and starting investigating fractions.

Year 6 are working with place value and 7 digit numbers. They are learning divisibility rules as well as factors. They will be working with prime and composite numbers as well as estimation.

With our SOSE Unit, Mapping our Anzacs, a request has gone home requesting information from anyone who has a family member who was in the services during World War I.

In English, our focus first is on learning descriptive language to help in characterisation when writing our narratives. Students are building long and interesting descriptions (in “grammar-speak” noun groups, with adjectives to bring their character descriptions alive and nouns) to make their stories more appealing. Students will be practicing writing narratives as this is one of the likely text-types that they have to write in NAPLAN.

Science - Are you ready to donate your 2-litre soft-drink bottles in the interest of science? We need 12 bottles so that we can carry out some experiments modelling the weather. There will be photos, so please give generously!

(Please note - we need the lids on the bottles!)

This is our first year with Geography as a separate Key Learning Area. Students will learn:

- Relative location of places at a local scale - Australia and its neighbouring countries.
- Representing data on maps; in tables and column graphs and using data to draw conclusions.
- Exploring the similarities and differences in the human and natural characteristics of places.
- Direction to and from places.
Get Started is a Queensland State Government funded initiative to support sport and recreation at the grassroots level and as such is aimed at assisting children and young people to join in.

If you’d like more information, please visit http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/funding/getinthegame/parents-carers.html

Become A Volunteer Host Family

Make Your Place Their Second Home

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting Australian families to experience another culture within their own homes by becoming volunteer host families. Choose a student from Italy, Belgium, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands or South America and get a glimpse into the life of another culture without having to leave the comfort of your home! Our exchange students are just as excited about sharing their own culture and life experiences as they are about becoming a member of an Australian family.

Find out more!

Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family, including student profiles.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager - Inbound Exchange Programs

Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: www.wep.org.au

The Get Active Qld Coaching Accreditation Courses are being held once again in Toowoomba. This year courses are being held on Saturday 8 March at Harristown SHS.

Courses being offered are Basketball, Football, Volleyball, Cricket, Netball, Rugby League, Touch Coaching, Royal Life Bronze Medalion & Sports First Aid (the same as senior first aid)

All courses are free to attend on the day. This course is available for school volunteers. If you wish to access, please contact the school and you’ll be given access to register on line.

Nominations close Friday 21 February. Courses fill early, so register now not to avoid disappointment.
New Model Constitution for Parents and Citizens (P&C) Associations, 2014.
Guidelines to adopt the 2014 Parents and Citizens (P&C) Model Constitution

The 2014 P&C Model constitution should be adopted by the end of **Term 1, Friday 4 April, 2014.**

**Step 1**
Download a copy of the Model Constitution and print for completion by your P&C. The areas which must be completed are highlighted in grey. P&C Associations are only able to make changes to the highlighted areas of the constitution.

**Step 2**
Save an electronic copy of the model constitution as: 2014 <<Name of School>> P&C Constitution. This document is only kept by the P&C Association and the school Principal.

**Step 3**
Insert the details for your P&C Association.
Changes can only be made to the highlighted text in the document.
To select the existing text, place your cursor in the relevant part of the grey area. Then simply type in your own text or choose one of the options given by deleting information that is no longer relevant.

**Step 4**
At the meeting of the Association, the P&C Association must adopt the new constitution through a motion passed by a majority of members present at the meeting. The principal, as the delegated officer of the Chief Executive, approves the constitution with an annotation.

**Step 5**
The principal emails the delegated regional officer to confirm the new model constitution has been adopted by his/her P&C Association.

**Step 6**
The principal files electronic and or hard copy of the 2014 P&C Constitution on behalf of the P&C Association. P&C Association also keep the Constitution on file and available to members.

**Step 7**
The delegated regional officer maintains a list of schools with approved 2014 model constitutions.

**Contact:**
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