Dear Parents, Students and Kindon Community

Well, Term 3 has set a cracking pace. Already past the end of our first week! Already I’ve sent out a new copy of our School Calendar with even more events this term. It’s filling up very quickly. As well as a packed classroom schedule, students are working on their ball game, relay and running skills ready for the Small Schools’ Sports at Talwood. Parents are reminded that there will be no bus running on that day. Traditionally parents have attended, so they should organise transport with another family if they are unable to attend on the day. Please get in touch with the school if you are stuck for transport.

Also coming up is the Goondiwindi Eisteddfod (week commencing 5th August - see Calendar). As soon as we have the programme of when Kindon is performing, I will let you know. As is tradition, Kindon State School will wear boots as well as sports/going out shirts while performing on stage. As in previous year, parents please organise boots for their children on the day. Also, the bus will not be running on that day as typically parents come in to watch their children performing. More reminders and information as the time draws closer.

The Queensland Government is currently planning to map out a 30-year plan for education. Currently an extensive state-wide consultation to develop Queensland’s first Education Accord is being undertaken. More information on how to be involved is contained on Page 4 inside.

Welcome to our new Groundscarer, Amy Krause. Amy is setting out making sure our Cross Country (again see Calendar - 11th August) is prepared and ready for use! Many thanks to Liz Irwin for the many months of hard work that she put in keeping our grounds and gardens looking spick and span.

Appreciation also to the helpers of our working bee including garden plant-up on Friday 11th July. A special acknowledgement of the work of the Montgomery band of merry helpers, who dug, planted, watered and spread mulch as well as removed fences and brought crusher dust as a base for our new raised flower beds. I’m sure the new plants (all 8 trays of them!) are loving this damp weather and that our garden will be a riot of colour and vigorous growth in spring.

Dale Minchenton
**English** - First unit of work this term focuses on the genre of poetry. This year we have registered for Red Room Poetry Objects 2014. Red Room Poetry Education inspires students and teachers to create, perform and publish poetry. They attempt to enliven experiences with poetry and provide a “real-world” experience of writing poetry. Students have brought their “talismanic objects” in to school and have started thinking about what they mean to them.

Last year we used the Poetry Object resources but did not register for the competition. Here is a sample from last year.

**The Poetry Object**

*My Talismanic Poem by Braeden Schwerin*

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When I was five I wished for you
When I was five I wanted you too
You're as tall as a pencil
That I use with a stencil
It was a joy-filled day
When you came to stay,
You looked like a robot
From that movie, Robo-Con
You looked as cool
As a swim in the pool
You smell so now
I just thought “wooh!”
You weren't made from rubber
Like a whale filled with Rubber
You were slightly rough
And your stuff was tough.
You will never change.
You will never look strange.
Now you smell like dust.
You're something I trust.
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School Information

Meet the Curriculum

Australian Curriculum: English

The Australian Curriculum: English Foundation to Year 10 is organised into three interrelated strands that support students’ growing understanding and use of English. Together the three strands focus on developing students’ knowledge, understanding and skills in listening, reading, viewing, speaking and writing. The three strands are:

* **Language:** knowing about the English language
* **Literature:** understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literature
* **Literacy:** expanding the repertoire of English usage.

How can I connect with my child’s reading?

**Every night:** read a story together at bedtime

**Every dinnertime:** discuss with your children what they are reading and why they like it

**Once a week:** share a household chore like washing up or tidying a bedroom: one person works while the other reads to them

**Once a week:** visit the library together and hunt for books you might like to read

**Every weekend:** share what you are reading with your children – a newspaper or magazine article, a text or letter from a friend...

**Every weekend:** find a new way to share a book, poem or story – Blu Tack up a poem in the loo, read the dog a bedtime story, tell your children a funny story about your childhood.

KIDSMATTER

Importance of children’s friendships

At any age, having friends provides support and promotes mental health and wellbeing. Children’s friendships are also very important for their social and emotional development. Through friendships children learn how to relate with others. They develop social skills as they teach each other how to be good friends.

Most children want to have friends. Children who have friends are more likely to be self-confident and perform better academically at school than those without friends. When children have difficulty in making friends or in keeping them, it often leads to feeling lonely and unhappy with themselves. Feeling rejected by others may lead to significant distress. Learning positive friendship skills can help children socially so they feel happier and more confident.

How friendships develop and change

Friendships require give and take. By sharing toys, time, games, experiences and feelings, children learn that they can have their social needs met and can meet the needs of others. Since friendships develop through this kind of mutual exchange, close friendships are usually based on well-matched needs.

Children’s friendship needs and skills change as they grow. Similarly, children’s ideas about friendship change as they develop. This is reflected in the different kinds of activities that children like to spend time doing with their friends at different ages.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at [www.kidsmatter.edu.au](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au)
A message from **Mr JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP**, Minister for Education, Training and Employment

I would like you remind you of the Queensland Government’s plan to map out a 30-year plan for education in our great state. We are currently undertaking extensive state-wide consultation to develop Queensland’s first Education Accord.

I strongly encourage your school community to contribute to shaping the future of education by participating in one of the many electorate-based consultation forums taking place around Queensland. There are three ways that your school staff, students and parents can be involved in the development of the Queensland Education Accord:


2. School staff and parents can contact their local Member of Parliament before 21 July 2014 to express interest in attending the Queensland Education Accord Summit to be held in Brisbane on 25 September 2014.

3. All interested Queenslanders can respond to the seven key questions on the Queensland Education Accord questionnaire via the website [www.dete.qld.gov.au/educationaccord](http://www.dete.qld.gov.au/educationaccord).

Education was identified as a key foundation area of the Queensland Plan which is due for release shortly. Clearly, this is an important time for Queensland, and your school community has an important opportunity to be involved.

I look forward to working with you to develop a 30-year vision for education in Queensland.

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**John-Paul Langbroek MP**  
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

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**Department of Education, Training and Employment**  
**Strategic Plan 2014–18**

**Our vision**  

**Our purpose**  
Preparing Queenslanders with the knowledge, skills and confidence to participate effectively in the community and the economy

**Our values**

1. **Customers first**  
Creating positive experiences for children, students, families, communities and industry through enabling choice, being responsive and providing inclusive services

2. **Ideas into action**  
Recognising and cultivating innovation for better learning outcomes

3. **Unleash potential**  
Working efficiently and effectively, with high expectations of each other and our services

4. **Be courageous**  
Promoting evidence-informed decision making, transparency and accountability

5. **Empower people**  
Developing and empowering our people through relationships based on trust, respect and valuing diversity

**Our outcomes**

1. **Early years**  
Queensland children engaged in quality early years programs and making successful transitions to school

2. **School education**  
Queensland students engaged in learning, achieving and successfully transitioning to further education, training and work

3. **Training and employment**  
Queenslanders skilled to participate in the economy and the broader community
Community Notices

Kindon parents - we are unable to support this as a school but you are welcome to take your younger children along to participate in the activities!

Oral health is a vital part of health for all ages and it is clearly recognised that if Health Promotion messages can be given to children from early ages they are far more likely to adopt good practices into adulthood. Therefore, we would like to strongly encourage any parents who can bring their child along to this event to please do so.

It is planned to be a fun day for all with the following activities assigned for children:

- Tooth fairy Marquee/castle – where the tooth fairy will do story readings from her magnificent throne.
- Plaque Cave – a fun cave for children (and adults if they wish) to see how well they are brushing their teeth in our “scary but fun” plaque cave. With Dr Plaque Away to guide them through.
- Colgate Dr Rabbit and the Giant Tooth will be there for photos with kids and general fun.
- Craft activities – the kids can make all sorts of crafty things to take home. Also they will be able to colour in our Healthy Mouth Healthy Me colour in.
- Face painting and temporary tattoos
- Guess what’s in the Jar – where we have placed a number of toothbrushes and other items for people to guess exactly how much we have in the jar. At the end of the day we will award prizes (we will take names and what school the child attends so that we can make sure they receive their prize)
- Balloon art – we have been practicing making balloon animals
- Germ Busters – interactive “hand hygiene” to show kids how important it is to clean your hands.
- Healthy lunch box - we will have staff demonstrating ideas for the Lunch box. We have also designed a “Healthy Mouth Healthy Me” cookbook to give away.
- Crazy “what the…” dental experiments
Become A Volunteer Host Family

Enrich Your Home With A WEP Exchange Student

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.

Arriving in January:

Angelica (17) from Italy says that she is excited to start school in Australia, to meet her new classmates and start speaking English with them. She has been doing artistic gymnastics since she was 6 and currently trains 3 times per week. Although she admits she isn’t at a high --level, she loves the sport and spending time with her teammates. She tells us that she is looking forward to meeting her new host family, is willing to help out with housework and is excited to meet her new host siblings.

Pietro (17) from Italy enjoys martial arts, playing cards and games, general fitness and plays both the trumpet and piano. He tells us that on Sunday mornings he often goes to church or bakes with his father and sister. He also says that he is optimistic and hopes that his exchange experience will help him grow as a person.

+ MANY MORE

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
Community Notices

Saturday 30 August 8am-1pm

Welcome to spring markets

A hive of activity featuring arts, craft, homewares, collectibles, exotic items, cooking, homemade goodies, food, hot coffee and much more. Held in a beautiful location, take a stroll around the Customs House Gardens, meet up with friends, sit and chat at the tables. You will have a lovely morning and leave with a bag of fabulous goodies.

At the Customs House
Near the old Bridge, McLean Street Goondiwindi