Welcome to a yet another very neat and compact Issue 4 of our Kairi State School Newsletter!

Well, we are certainly having an interesting time here at school! This is the first day in over a week where we have had internet access, email access, One School access and Server access! This is because our local school server suffered a rather dramatic systems failure last week and had resisted all attempts at resuscitation until now :)

The consequences of this period of no IT access has meant that teachers (except for the 5 & 6 class via Sandra’s NextG network laptop) have not been able to supply us with classroom reports for this newsletter as previously promised. However, rest assured all children have been busy learning and the classrooms are all working beautifully. Hopefully we are now over all the dramas for this term, and our next newsletter will show the usual class reports updating parents on what their children are currently working on.

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We are very, very proud to announce that our Yr 3 / 4 teacher, Mr Harris has won a National Excellence for Teacher Award. Congratulations Mr Harris, and we hope that you enjoy your trip to Space Camp in Alabama! The following information regarding the award has been compiled by Mr Harris:

Last Friday, I received a National Excellence in Teaching Award. Pictured are all Australian awardees. The awards are sponsored by Australian Scholarships Group and the Federal Government.

On that day, I was lucky enough to also be selected to travel in June of this year, to Huntsville Alabama, USA. I will attend a week long international congress of teachers at the U.S. Space & Rocket Centre. The teachers, in teams of seven, will undertake a series of challenges, to gain an insight into team problem solving educational programs which are part of the "Space Camp" experience. Also during the week we will have opportunities to share our teaching passions and ideas for educational change. I will get the chance to introduce my "Climate Change Sensor Robot" with real NASA scientists and then present how computer programming and robotics could enhance Primary, High School and university curricula.

My other task is to chaperone three Australian Secondary Students who were selected as part of an Australia-wide contest.

Many thanks to the people who nominated and supported me last year. Thanks also to my students who trialled some crazy electronic gadgets and also took excellent iPad movies. I suppose I now have to come true on my promise to bring you back some souvenirs from Alabama!

Cross Country:

Congratulations to Euramo House for winning the Kairi School Cross Country award for 2015. All team members that participated in the event gained a point for their house at the very least; and this years Cross Country was all about team effort. Well done to those students who trained so hard and competed with all their heart, you gave your team really valuable points and proved yourself to be fantastic team members. A special Well Done also to those students who just kept on going to finish the event. You never gave up, and you also proved yourselves to be totally amazing team members! You should all be very proud of yourselves-as we certainly are!

Waringle - you weren't that far behind Euramo on points!

Lets all keep ourselves fit and healthy with plenty of exercise, and get ready for the inter-house sports day in June.
Every Day Counts!

In order for students to learn and for teachers to teach effectively, it is essential that students attend school all day, every day and arrive to lessons on time. Every Day Counts!

Did you know that the number of allocated sick leave for most full time employees in Australia is 10 days? This is equal to an attendance rate of 90%. Our school aims for attendance rates of 95%. This is about 8-9 sick days every year.

*Effective ongoing learning is only achievable when students are at school.*

We understand that children get sick and are unable to attend school. When this occurs it is important that you contact the school office and inform us that your child/children will be absent, the duration of the absence and the reason for the absence.

Staff at our school are committed to ensuring that all of our children reach their potential. *With our guidance, expertise and a partnership between parents, students and teachers, every child is capable of achieving beyond their expectations.*

We are sure that you want the best for your child/children. You can do this by ensuring that your child is at school, on time, every day!

**Illnesses**

There have been a number of illnesses that have been reported to the school, and we thank those families who have kept their children at home. Keeping students at home when they are sick minimises the infection rate. Infection and illness control guidelines for schools states that:

Students should be excluded from school for 24 hours after the final symptom has been observed for vomiting and / or diarrhoea.

We ask that parents observe these guidelines to assist the school in minimising the illnesses that can occur.

**Year 6 to 7 Transition**

Atherton State High school is beginning the transition program for year 6 students moving to high school in 2016. Please note the following dates in your calendars for future reference. The high school also advertises these events in the local newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Key staff from ASHS visit students at Kairi school</td>
<td>Wed 18 March</td>
<td>Kairi School</td>
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<tr>
<td>First parent information session</td>
<td>Thurs 19 March</td>
<td>ASHS Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>First student visit to ASHS</td>
<td>Wed 20 May</td>
<td>ASHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second student visit to ASHS</td>
<td>Wed 2 Sept</td>
<td>ASHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final student visit to ASHS</td>
<td>Date to be announced</td>
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**5/6 news**

I am so very proud of the students in the 5/6 class. The work ethic and behaviour they exhibited during my absence has been commented on positively by many different people. Please join me by congratulating your child/children on the choices they made over the past few weeks. It is a credit to you all.

I am very pleased to announce that we have secured a camp at Camp Paterson in Mareeba for the 16, 17 and 18 September. We will aim to keep costs at approximately $100 per student. Please mark these dates in your calendar. Please do not make any payments at this stage. This estimated cost is provided only to assist families with forward budgeting.

Over the coming weeks, student will begin standardised tests for reading, spelling and math. Results from these assessments can be shared once collated and I am happy to meet with parents to discuss student progress. Please make a time for an appointment if you would like to chat with me.

Over the past few weeks in History, the students have been busy learning about the reasons for establishing a penal colony in Moreton Bay and then how the development of Moreton Bay changed after it became a free settlement. This week, the students are starting the first part of their assessment task which involves examining images of Brisbane before and after British settlement and identifying aspects that have stayed the same and those that have changed. They then write paragraphs explaining the causes and effects of the changes to the settlement.
**What is the difference between Religious Instruction classes and the School Chaplaincy program?**

There seems to be a little confusion over this, so we thought we would try to give you a clear overview below. (If you would like more information on either of these topics please ask at the school office)

**RI:** Queensland State Schools offer non-compulsory Religious Instruction classes once a week for students between Yr 1 and Yr 6. (you will have filled out a yes / no permission note for your child to attend RI classes when you enrolled here at Kairi)

The RI program here at Kairi is formulated by the Atherton & District Cooperative Christian Group and is taught by an accredited RI Instructor using an agreed curriculum. The program content covers an introduction to the bible, helping children explore the meaning and purpose in life, exploring Christian values, encouraging children’s spiritual development and encouraging them to make wise life choices based on Christian principles.

RI Instructors are required to show sensitivity and respect for all faiths and traditions of the participating denominations and to respect the beliefs and views of children and their parents.

**Chaplain:** Our School Chaplain (Chappie Sharon) fills a very different role and operates under the National School Chaplaincy Programme. Chappie is onsite twice a week. Some of the duties a School Chaplain may provide for their School Community are as follows:

- **Social and/or emotional support** – assisting students to develop knowledge, understandings and skills that support learning, positive behaviour and constructive social relationships through social skills programs.
- **Spiritual support** – providing an additional dimension to the school's care, guidance and support of students with spiritual and/or religious needs.
- **Mentoring** – acting as a role model for students and assisting in the development of supportive relationships for, with, and among students.
- **Community development** – enhancing the links between the school and its community, working with school-based support staff and community-based youth organisations and networks to support students.
- **Educational support** – assisting with classroom activities (under the direction of a teacher) where involvement by the chaplain/student welfare worker provides further social, emotional or spiritual support for those students who may be at risk of disengagement.
- **Extra-curricular activities** – participating in general school activities, e.g. camps, excursions, sports day or coaching team sports.

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**Well Women’s Clinics**

*(These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients)*

Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Bowel Health, Domestic Violence, etc.

All services are provided by a specially trained Women’s Health Nurse.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atherton Health Centre</td>
<td>Wed 25th March</td>
<td>4091 0263</td>
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<tr>
<td>Millaa Millaa Health Ctr</td>
<td>Tues 3rd March</td>
<td>4097 2223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malanda Health Centre</td>
<td>Wed 4th &amp; Thurs 26th March</td>
<td>4096 5339</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herberton Hospital</td>
<td>Thursday 5th March</td>
<td>4096 2222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atherton Midin</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th March</td>
<td>4091 6103</td>
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### SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
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* (6pm in library)* |
| May 1 (Friday)                           | District Cross Country  
*(held at Butchers Ck School)* |
| June 22 (Monday)                         | Kairi SS Interhouse Athletics  
Waringles (Blue) & Euramo (Red) |

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**Month of March**

Happy Birthday Everyone!

- Nate B 1st
- Dexter 1st
- Johnno 6th
- Tanisha 7th
- Rocco 9th
- Christian 14th
- Cooper 14th
- Zamika 18th
- Conor S 25th
- Alexandria 27th
- Toby H 27th
- Brandon 29th

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