



Thursday 13 February 2014

# Kowanyama

STATE SCHOOL

“Ready to Learn”



# NEWSLETTER

## Date Claimers

17 —21 February

Guidance Officer (Miss Sarah)

18-20 March

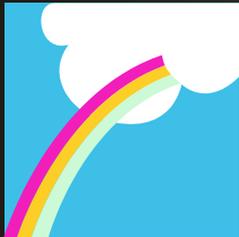
Jimmy Little Foundation Music Workshops

Friday 04 April

Last day of school Term One

Tuesday 22 April

First day of school Term Two



## Everyday counts

\$20

Power Cards provided by:  
Kowanyama State School &  
Out There Kowanyama

Is your child  
at school  
today?



Focus of the Week

Return to class  
on time.

Welcome back to another year at Kowanyama State school. A special welcome to the new families and staff members. I know your time with us will be both successful and enjoyable. At the end of last week, 204 students were enrolled at our school—an increase on the number of students enrolled at the same time in 2013. Despite the huge amount of rain we have had for the start of the year, this is a great effort! My wish now is for all of students to be attending school every day.

A special welcome to the following teachers who have joined us this year:

Sir Luke —Year 4  
Miss Maree—Year 5  
Sir Martin—Year 6  
Miss Anne—Year 7  
Sir Aaron—Secondary  
Sir Dan—Head of Department

## Tuckshop / School Lunches

As families would know, school staff have been organising and selling lunches to the students every day for the last year. This week, Miss Jodi has started preparing lunches for our students. I am hoping this will be continuing into the future with support from families and students. Miss Jodi will soon have a menu available and students will all be encouraged to place their orders at the beginning of every day. Please see the school for more details.

## Great Results Guarantee

All Queensland schools will soon receive additional funding to improve student performance. To receive the funding schools must complete an agreement that commits them to guarantee that every student will either:

- achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for their year level or
- have an evidence-based plan, developed by the school, in place to address their specific learning difficulties.

As the results of all students are dependent on school attendance, this will form part of our agreement. If attendance is low, achievement will also be lower than the class average.

Student performance will be measured throughout the year and schools will be required to demonstrate how the extra funding is helping to improve learning outcomes for all students.

## Family BBQ

A reminder that the Family BBQ will be held this Friday at 2.00pm. This will be a great opportunity for families to meet the new teachers and to visit their child's classroom. It will be wonderful to see everyone at school this Friday afternoon.

## Classroom News

Pre-Prep has had a fantastic start to the year. We have settled in well and have been learning all about our classroom rules and routines. We have also demonstrated how deadly we are as learners by practising the letters **s**, **t** and **a** as well as counting up to the number **5**.



On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February, 2014, Pre-Prep will be doing a Focus of the Week presentation item on parade at 9:20am. It would be great to see all families there.

Miss Emma, Miss Shalika and Miss Coralie.



Students working hard to complete their handwriting.

The **Prep** class has had a great start to the new school year! They have done a great job in remembering their sight words and letters and sounds that they learnt last year in Pre-Prep. The students have been working hard and are settling in to new routines. Keep up the great work Prep!

Regards  
Ross McHutcheon  
Principal



C/- Post Office, Kowanyama, QLD 4871 ♦ Telephone (07) 4083 7333 ♦ Fax (07) 4060 5280

E-mail the.principal@kowanyamass.eq.edu.au ♦ Web <http://kowanyamass.eq.edu.au>

**Attendance Power Cards**

As we have been doing for some time now, Power Cards will be presented to the families of students with excellent attendance at the end of every Term. More than anything else, school attendance can make a huge difference to the lives of our students. We rely so much on parent support to ensure our attendance rates remain high. Because the futures of our children are linked directly to their school attendance, I ask for the support of everyone in the community to assist us in making sure our students are at school and we have 100% attendance.

*As I have said many times before, school attendance is not just important to the future of every child but also to the future of the entire Kowanyama community. If ever you need assistance in getting your children to school, please contact us.*

**Everyday counts**

Healthy Ears and Good Hearing are important tools for classroom learning. Five things that parents can do to promote healthy ears are:

1. Ask for your child's ears to be checked—every visit to the clinic
2. Give your child fruit to eat every day – this will help fight off germs
3. Check that your child is washing hands and face every day to wash away germs that make ears sick
4. Do not smoke near children – smoke is not good for children's ears
5. Encourage nose-blowing to help keep ears healthy

*(courtesy of Australian Hearing)*



**Thumbs Up!**  
**Good Tucker - Long Life!**  
[www.jlf.org.au](http://www.jlf.org.au)



The Jimmy Little Foundation's 'Thumbs Up! Healthy Tucker' program aims to improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal children by promoting the importance of nutritious foods. The 'Thumbs up! Healthy Tucker' program uses music and new media to help promote the message of "Good Tucker - Long Life" to children and community members in remote communities.

The "Good Tucker – Long Life" signage has been in the Kowanyama Retail Store since 2012 and the Jimmy Little Foundation has planned to deliver the music workshops at the Kowanyama School between 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014. During this time we will write, record a song and make a video for it with the children. There will also be nutrition promotion and cook-ups at the school and the store, supported by the Apunipima Healthy Lifestyles team.

*Focus of the Week*

**Return to class on time**



*Respect Learning — Respect Community — Respect Culture*