Date Claimers

- **07 November** — Attendance Movie Night (5.00pm)
- **07 November** — Live, Learn, Leap
- **28 November** — School Fete / NAIDOC Celebrations
- **02 December** — Senior Students’ Graduation Night
- **04 December** — School Concert
- **05 December** — Last Day of School
- **27 January** — First Day of School 2015

**Is your child at school today?**

**Focus of the Week**

*Everyday counts.*

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**Newsletter Change**

Following on from the changes made to the school logo at the beginning of the year, we have now made some small changes to the Newsletter. Our new logo is something we can all be very proud of. It promotes our commitment to and understanding of Respect Learning, Respect Community and Respect Culture.

**Attendance Improvement**

Over the years, we have all been working hard at making sure our students are at school everyday. Thank you to the many families that assist us in this area. Even though our attendance has been improving every year, this year we have had the support of a number of School Attendance Officers who have been visiting families to check on ways for them to help to support families in getting their children to school. **Because of everyone’s efforts, our attendance at the end of Term 3 this year was 11% better than in 2013!** This is a fantastic effort! By attending school every day, the young people in this community will have better opportunities and jobs in their important roles as leaders and workers of the future.

**Thank you—Out There Kowanyama**

Thank you again Out There Kowanyama for the generous donation of sports gear for us to use after our Study Classes on a Wednesday afternoon. Exercising our brains and our bodies at the same time makes learning fun!

**Reading Better at Kowanyama**

We are all very proud of the effort out staff and students put in to reading every day of the week. For some of our students, they are already reaching the levels (benchmarks) they should be at in any school in Queensland. Once again, this has been a great improvement that we have all noticed. Thank you to the families who have also continued to support us by reading to their children at home—this makes a big difference!

**NAIDOC Celebrations**

Because of Sorry Business at the end of Term 3, we have changed the date for NAIDOC Celebrations and the School Fete. This will now be held on Friday 28 November. (Cultural activities will occur on Thursday 27 November and be celebrated as part of the fete - the following day.) A reminder that we are still looking for community members who would like to assist us with these celebrations. Please contact the school for more information.

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**Keil is in Year 2 and he has already reached Level 25 with 5 weeks of school left this year! Well done, Keil!**

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Power Cards provided by:

Kowanyama State School &
Out There Kowanyama

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E-mail the.principal@kowanyamass.eq.edu.au • Web http://kowanyamass.eq.edu.au
St Brendan’s College Visit
Today, we welcomed Mr Peter Bartlett from St Brendan’s College in Yeppoon. He took the time today to speak to a number of students about school life at St Brendan’s and about other opportunities available to them in that centre. We thank Peter for his visit and know that a number of students will soon be joining other students who have previously enrolled at that school. If you need to know more about this or any other boarding school for your son or daughter, please contact Miss Flo at the school’s Transition Office.

School Dental Van
As everyone would be aware, the Dental Van is at school and will be here for at least the remainder of the year. Families are welcome to come and check with the dentists about any concerns they may have regarding their children’s teeth. If your child is anxious or worried about visiting the dentist, you are also very welcome to go into the dental van with them to provide support.

Live Learn Leap
Live Learn Leap is a Sport and Recreation initiative between AFL Cape York Limited and the QLD Police and Citizens Youth Welfare Association operating in remote communities of Cape York Peninsula and Gulf Savannah Regions North QLD. Live Learn Leap will be coming to Kowanyama throughout November to promote health and fitness as well as a number of game skills through a range of popular sports such as basketball, hockey, AFL and cricket. The program supports Indigenous youth to become leaders of tomorrow through participation, volunteerism, training, wellbeing and safety. We look forward to welcoming the team to Kowanyama State School and we know our students will benefit greatly from this activity.

Regards
Ross McHutcheon
Principal

What is Shigella?
Shigella is a germ that causes runny tummy or belly runs. It is usually spread from one person to another. A person can pass the germ to others if they do not wash their hands properly after going to the toilet or after changing a nappy of a symptomatic child or baby. If the hands are not washed properly then the Shigella germ can be passed onto objects such as food, tables or toys which are then touched by other people.

How do you know if you might have Shigella?
It usually takes about 1-3 days after coming in contact with the germ before a person becomes sick. People may have:
- watery diarrhoea (runny poo),
- fever,
- vomiting,
- tummy cramps.

Who can get Shigella?
Anyone can get Shigella but it is only found in people. It can be more serious if young children and older people get it.

How long can people pass it on to others?
While they are sick, and up to four weeks after they are better.

What is the treatment?
It is very important to drink plenty of fluids so you or your child does not get dehydrated. Sometimes antibiotics are needed to help treat the infection. Always go to the clinic if you are not well or concerned about your illness.

How can you stop the spread of Shigella or not get sick with it?
- Be very careful with hand washing - use soap and running water to wash hands. Always wash hands after:
  - going to the toilet or vomiting.
  - after changing a baby’s nappy.
  - after helping children at the toilet.
  - before preparing or handling foods, and before eating.
  - Wrap dirty nappies in a bag and place them in the bin and close the lid.

If you are sick avoid contact with others so do not go to playgroup, school or work.

Make sure that the kitchen, tables and bathroom are kept clean.

For more information please talk to your clinic or Child Health staff.