



Kioma Kronicle

Edition 2 May 2024

From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 2. Last week we held the annual small school's cross country at Kioma, a big thank you to the families who helped make the day a smooth success. A big thank you to Mrs Daly who does all of the work behind the scenes to make it look like I have done a great job organising it!

Our ANZAC ceremony was also a lovely event and I was so proud of our senior students for their running of the event and reading so confidently in front of an unfamiliar and larger crowd than they are used to. Jonathan Druce, our school supervisor was in attendance and has sung the praises of our students on their respectful nature throughout the event.

Thank you to all of our families for participating in Parent Teacher Interviews this week. We have had 100% uptake on these sessions which shows the strong commitment from our families in building productive working relationships with the school. We hold interviews each term, but as always, we pride ourselves on our open-door policy so if at any stage you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Our school review occurred at the end of last term. The reviewers provided lots of useful feedback to support our continued improvements over the coming years. A snapshot of our review outcomes has been attached to this newsletter. I will unpack what this means moving forward at our next P&C meeting this term.

Our attendance rate has dropped to 78.4% this term which now puts us below the state average. Every day really does count at school and there is a direct correlation to the number of days absent and student's academic results. It is impossible to catch students up on all the work that is missed when they are away.

Finally, please take a minute to look at our key dates section. We have lots of exciting things coming up this term to look forward to.

Rhiannon Higgs

Curriculum Corner

This term, all students in all grades are working on information texts. Students will be reading, writing and talking about facts about a range of different topics and the focus will be on non-fiction texts. In our junior class we are discovering interesting facts about animals, this is linked to our science unit on what animals need to survive. Our senior students are also looking at animals linking to their science of animal adaptations for survival.

Using Reading Strategies

We know it's super important for children to be reading every day. The more we practice, the more opportunities we have to use the skills taught and consolidate them, so words become 'automatic'. For example, a student who is in the very early stages of reading would see the word 'cat' and need to know each sound, say each sound, then blend them together. As we progress with reading, we know automatically that 'c, a and t' together says cat and we don't need to sound it out anymore. The goal is to build this 'bank' of automatic words, so reading becomes fluent.

When we experience a new word in reading, even as adults, we need to use strategies to work it out. The strategy we use at school to support the Science of Reading is to sound it out. Start at the beginning of the word, sound out either individual sounds or 'chunks' of sounds (e.g. syllables), then blend them together. Once the word has been decoded and worked out, it is also really important for children to go back to the start of the sentence and re-read it fluently to help students understand what they have read.

We no longer use strategies like looking at the pictures, guessing, or substituting with a word that makes sense. By using our phonological knowledge to decode new words, we are supporting the reading strategies used at school to be successful readers.

Upcoming Events

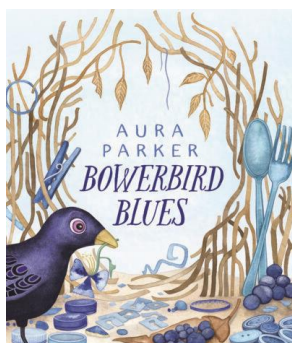
Mother's Day Brunch

Next Friday we are hosting our Mother's Day brunch. The day begins at 8:30am. There will be some yummy treats and special pampering for our mums. All mums or other special women (Grandmas, Aunties etc) are welcome to attend.



National Simultaneous Storytime

Wednesday 22nd May is the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) this is an Australia wide event where all students around the country read the same book at 11am. This year the book 'Bowerbird Blues'. We will be celebrating the book throughout the day and students will be able to participate in a shared lunch. All students are asked to come wearing blue clothes as part of the day. A reminder note will go home the week prior.



Kioma State School

2131 Kioma Rd, Kioma, QLD 4498
Ph: (07) 4677 6169 M: 045987 4680
Email: the.principal@kiomass.eq.edu.au

Key Dates

May

- 3rd – Goondiwindi Show Holiday
- 6th – Labor Day Holiday
- 10th – Mother's Day Brunch
- 13th-15th – Rhiannon absent at Principal Roadshow
- 22nd – National Simultaneous Storytime
- 24th – Interschool soccer at Kindon
- 24th – Prep vision screening at Kindon

June

- 14th – Under 8s Day hosted by St Marys
- 14th – Small school athletic carnival
- 21st – Pancake, Pizza, Pyjama Day
- 21st – Last Day of Term 2

July

- 8th – First day Term 3

 **UNDER 8'S DAY** in Gundy!
Schools, centres and public are welcome!

Friday 14th June
9:30am - 11:30am
St Mary's School



