



2018

Term 1—2018

Newsletter Issue 1

25 January , 2018

Kingsthorpe State School



From the Principal.....

WELCOME TO OUR 2018 SCHOOL YEAR.

On behalf of the members of our school community, I welcome all those new to Kingsthorpe State School. In addition to the 28 new Prep students, we also welcome a number of new children in various grades. We know that the children and their families will quickly become part of our wider Kingsthorpe family. Also new to our Kingsthorpe community, we welcome new staff members - **Keren Thomas** (Prep/1 Teacher) and **Matt Hohn** (PE Teacher and one day on 2/3 Class).

The start of this year has been exceptionally smooth, all credit goes to the teachers, administration, and support staff who have ensured our well-oiled machine has quickly catered for and accommodated all students. At this time, I would like to provide a special thanks to the support staff within our cleaning and grounds areas. During the past week, Sharon, Pat and Dale have worked tirelessly to transform our buildings and grounds to a welcoming state. Having been closed for 5 weeks, our grounds and buildings were in need of some tender loving care, which these enthusiastic folk have provided.

This being our first newsletter for the year, it includes many of the initial pieces of information we believe parents need to know to assist them in understanding the operations of our school. If there are any further questions that may arise or information that you would like to know about our school, please make contact with your classroom teacher, administration staff or myself.

SCHOOL PRIORITIES 2018

Our major focus this year is continuing to improve the learning outcomes of all our students (with a specific focus on the explicit teaching of Reading and Writing). This involves catering for the learning needs and abilities of each student; knowing where individual students are at with their learning and developing their next steps; providing immediate affirmative or corrective feedback and using student data to inform teaching and learning. We look forward to working closely with parents to ensure the best possible outcomes for each child.

SCHOOL STARTING TIME

This year, we have an even greater expectation that children will be at school **on time**, ready to start their day. **School starts at 8.45am.**

Lateness not only disrupts the learning of individual children, it also disrupts teachers and other students as those who are late need to catch up on what they have missed.

School starts at 8.45am and children need be here earlier than that to get ready for the day.

It is important that all parents realise that children need to be at school for the maximum amount of time available to ensure quality learning can occur. Any absence can have an impact on a child's overall learning. Students arriving at school early are to report to "the Blue Zone" where they remain until the bell rings.

STUDENT ABSENCE - NOTIFICATION

We continue to thank all parents who provide notification to the school of their child's absence. As well as a legal requirement, we need to ensure that you know that your child has **not been** at school. Our new same day messaging system will automatically send a text message to the parent if your son/daughter is absent and unexplained. For this system to work as intended – please ensure your phone numbers and address are kept up to date on our system, contact our administration office to report any updates.

SCHOOL BOOKLISTS

At this stage, it is hoped that all children have all necessary items as per our school booklists in order to fully participate in school activities. Booklists are still available from the office and on the school website.

It is recognised that school starts can be expensive for parents, however, the longer children are without essential items, the greater the potential it has to disadvantage their learning. Should parents have any problems in accessing items on the booklist, please talk with your classroom teachers.

LUNCHES

As always, it is a challenge for parents to provide lunches that their children "want or enjoy".

We do ask that all parents, in providing healthy lunches, **refrain from sending soft drinks and lollies to school** with children. Children require well-balanced nutritious food to ensure that their energy levels convert to concentration throughout the school day.

PEANUT ALLERGIES

While on the topic of food, it is important for our school community to be aware of the fact that in society, and currently in schools, there are some folk who have allergies to peanut products. Contact with such products can cause serious allergic reactions and at worst can cause death.

We can be understanding of and supporting of these allergies in a number of ways:-

Firstly: All children need to be encouraged **not** to swap their food. Younger children may not be aware that they have allergies and as such, symptoms may come upon them with little warning.

Secondly: Parents who are sending peanut products to school, especially peanut butter sandwiches, need to tell their children that others can have serious allergic reactions if eating this food and advise them **not** to swap such food and to dispose of properly if not eating.

INSURANCE COVER FOR STUDENTS UNDERTAKING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Physical activity and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury.

Parents are advised that the Department of Education Training and the Arts does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students.

Education Queensland has public liability cover for all approved school activities and provides compensation for students injured at school only when the Department is negligent. If this is not the case, then all costs associated with the injury are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver.

It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.

SCHOOL SAFETY ZONES

I am sure that all parents are aware that the maximum speed around schools is 40 km/h. Police regularly patrol these areas to ensure that motorists abide by this speed direction. Naturally it is important to us that motorists respect this lower speed zone as it enhances the safety of all people who are arriving and exiting our school.

Within our school zone, we also have a **school crossing** managed before and after school by staff. All children are to use the crossing and parents are encouraged to do so as well. Parents are the greatest role models for children and should they be using crossings - then children will most likely do so as well.

VEHICLES IN SCHOOL GROUNDS

By way of safety, parents are reminded that parking within the school is limited to school staff.

WEARING A BICYCLE HELMET

Queensland law requires that everyone must wear a helmet when riding a bike. Helmets help protect bike riders from head injuries and can save lives. When buying a helmet it must:

- have the Australian Standards mark - TM AS 2063, AS/NZS 2063
- fit firmly and comfortably on the person's head and shouldn't be able to move in any direction.
- have adjustable straps so there is no slack when they are fastened.

Helmets come in a variety of shapes, sizes and colours and some will fit better than others. A correctly fitted and securely adjusted helmet should not move. A helmet that does not fit correctly is unsafe and it may move or slip off in a fall or crash.

SCHOOL / BELL TIMES

Parents and children are reminded that school commences at Kingsthorpe State School at 8.45am. At this time, the first bell rings signalling that children are to enter classes.

The full schedule of lunch times, both morning tea and big lunch is as follows:

8.45 am - First Bell (move to class)

11:00 am - Morning Tea

11.25 am - Class resumes

1.00 pm - Lunch

1:45 pm - Class resumes

3.00 pm - School finishes

It is essential that children arrive at school on time and remain at school until school finishes at 3.00pm.

Early departures from school not only disrupt the learning of the child who leaves, but also disturbs the remaining children in class.

If possible, please make medical appointments for your children outside of school hours so that they gain the benefit of a full day's lessons.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

The school staff undertook a range of activities during our Staff Development Days on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday last week. Time was taken to look at initiatives to be completed this year and have discussions about continuing to improve the way we can provide for the students and families at our school. These were exceptionally rewarding days where outcomes will certainly improve learning opportunities for children.

SCHOOL UNIFORM/JEWELLERY

This school encourages all students to wear, with pride, our Kingsthorpe school uniform.

With regards to jewellery, again our expectation is, that children are permitted to wear sleeper earrings, a watch and a religious item. As has been explained many times to our children, school is not a fashion parade, nor is it a display of how much adornment we can wear to school.

If you have any questions regarding uniforms and jewellery, please contact the office.

CLOTHING - PLEASE NAME

Each year, many items of students' clothing are lost and cannot be returned as they have not been named.

ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING (INCLUDING LUNCH BOXES AND DRINK BOTTLES) NEED TO BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE CHILD'S NAME.

HATS

Students are constantly reminded of the school's policy that children will wear a **brimmed hat** at all times while in the grounds. Children without hats will need to remain seated in one of the undercover areas or in shaded area in clear view of staff on duty– "No Hat, No Play".

SHOES

It is our school's expectation that students, at all times, wear appropriate footwear. Enclosed shoes minimise the risk of foot injury.

PAYMENTS

Eftpos is now available at the office and is the preferred method of payment. If paying by cash, in an envelope with your child's name, class, payment reason and amount on the front of the envelope. This assists greatly with the receipting process. Correct change is appreciated.

MOBILE PHONES

Should parents wish to make contact with children during the school day this can be easily done through the school office. As such, children should not have mobile phones at school.

In the case where a mobile phone may be required by a student before or after school, these phones are left in the office where they can be picked up at the end of the school day. Please ensure phones are **switched off** before handing into the office.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Should medication be prescribed by your child's doctor and needs to be taken while at school, you need to be aware of the Education Queensland Regulations.

Education Queensland Regulations, September 88 require that,

1. **AUTHORITY FORMS** for medication **MUST BE COMPLETED** by a parent or guardian BEFORE medication is to be administered. These forms are available from the administration office.
2. **ALL MEDICATION MUST** be in the container from the pharmacy with clear **WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS** on the container, and must be lodged with the school office for security purposes. **WE CANNOT ACCEPT INDIVIDUAL CAPSULES OR TABLETS.**
3. Administration of that medication will be carried out by an adult staff member designated by the Principal.
4. It is the responsibility of the student to come to the office when the medication is needed. Staff cannot be responsible for chasing up students.
5. Non-prescribed medications (e.g. Aspirin, Panadol, Cough medicine etc.) should **NOT** be brought to school and **WILL NOT** be administered by school staff.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM 2018

Welcome to the 2018 Kingsthorpe State School Instrumental Music Program and another year of exciting music making and learning. This year, our Instrumental teacher is again Mr Jeff Poole. He will be teaching all of our instrumental students as well as conducting the school band. Jeff will be speaking with students in Year 4-6 this week to determine interest in the program for 2018. Forms will come home with interested students this week.



UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS for 2018

Regular times are Thursdays (2.45 - 3.30pm). PLEASE REMEMBER that the uniform shop is operated by P&C Volunteers and these times may change due to volunteer availability. Special thanks to Tammie Mathies who runs our Uniform Shop!

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The Tuckshop opens for its first day for 2018 on Thursday 1st February. Volunteers are always welcomed and sort after – so if you are able to help out please register your interest at the office or at the tuckshop on a Thursday! Tuckshop orders must be placed **BEFORE 8.30am** on the tuckshop day. Ordering and payment is done online using Flexischools system. Registering on Flexischools can be done by following the prompts. Contact office for more information or go to <http://www.flexischools.com.au/>.

KINGSTHORPE STATE SCHOOL "RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR PLAN FOR STUDENTS"

This document was approved by Education Queensland for implementation. Parents can access this document on our school website page. A very important component of our "Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students" is our commitment to implementing and participating in PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning). Those of you who attended this school last year, would be aware of the Kingsthorpe expectations of:

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible

These expectations underpin everything that we do at Kingsthorpe. For parents who are new to the school, please contact the school administration or your child's teacher and we will gladly spend time talking to you about PBL. Each week in the newsletter we will inform you of our focus expectation of the week, which is taught explicitly to all students.

PARADE

Whole school parade occurs weekly and is also where students are recognised for their effort, behaviour and academic and sporting achievements. Parade is **Thursday afternoons at 2:30pm in the Hall**. This time is to maximise the optimum learning time for students in the classroom - students are typically more focused and engaged in the morning (which is why teachers do not teach math in the afternoon!). Parents are invited and encouraged to attend school parades – we look forward to seeing you there if you can make it!

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

The school P&C also run a before and after hours school care for all students. Before school care from 7am; after school care till 6pm. Please contact Natasha Withers on 0411 101 414 if you would like to access this service or would like any further information.

P&C MEETING

P&C meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. Our first meeting is set for 6pm on Tuesday the 20th February. All parents are welcome to attend.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

Kingsthorpe SS are providing Religious Instruction (RI) for students in Years 1 - 6 from Monday the 5th February (RI is timetabled from 2:30pm-3:00pm).

The information on your child's enrolment form is used to place them in either RI or in "Other instruction", unless you have provided additional written advice to the school.

Students that do not participate in RI are provided with other instruction (no new work is covered in "Other Instruction" – is only revision of current in class work).

If we do not already have clear advice from you about your child's participation in RI, please provide this to the school in writing (note or email).



HIGHFIELDS & DISTRICT
JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

2018 SEASON

SIGN ON LAUNCH

Saturday 3rd Feb @ 4pm
EAGLES NEST, KUHL'S ROAD OVAL

- * **Season Information**
- * **Meet the Coaches**
- * **Sausage Sizzle**
- * **Merchandise Stall**
- * **Collect your Socks & Shorts**
(Fully Paid & Registered Players Only)

COME & SIGN
UP FOR THE
2018 SEASON

PLAYERS MUST COMPLETE THEIR ONLINE REGISTRATION FIRST ...
WWW.HIGHFIELDSEAGLES.COM.AU



Breakfast Club will resume weekly from Wednesday the 31st of January from 8:30am under A block. All students are welcome to come and enjoy this free and nutritious breakfast together. Any parents wishing to help out please see Chappy Sarah. Additionally, breakfast items such as Milo, Vegemite, Jam that you would like to donate would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks from the Breakfast Club Team



What's On

Thursday	Tuckshop
Thursday	Uniform shop from 2:45—3:30

**12PM-3PM, SATURDAY
3RD FEB 2018**
TOOWOOMBA HOCKEY CENTRE - CLYDE PARK

For more info, phone 4633 1229 or
email office@toowoombahockey.com.au

HOCKEY EXPO

Come & enjoy our friendly, family atmosphere. Activities & games for all ages, try the 28 metre obstacle course, the giant slide or the jumping castle for the smaller people.

Free sample bags for new members/players. Enjoy the free BBQ, fairy floss & snow cones.

Buy a ticket in a chance to win your THA membership for a year!

Watch our players in action during exhibition games & training sessions.

Enjoy our canteen and try our bistro & club facilities.

COME & TRY IT OUT

If you have never played Hockey, have a go at one of our 'Come & Try' sessions.

HOKIN2HOCKEY

Register for the Hookin2Hockey program for kids, and learn the basic skills of Hockey.



SIGN ON

Sign up for Hockey in 2018. We have 5 great local clubs to choose from!



ALL ARE WELCOME



For more info, phone 4633 1229 or
email office@toowoombahockey.com.au