5 March 2014

**BIRKDALE STARS**

This week’s Birkdale Stars are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eva</td>
<td>Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayla-Lee</td>
<td>Yr 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Yr 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macayla</td>
<td>Yr 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe</td>
<td>Yr 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody</td>
<td>Yr 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>Yr 7</td>
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Congratulations!

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

Birkdale School Community has identified the following school rules to teach and promote our high standards of behaviour, in line with the principles of *School Wide Positive Behaviour Support*.

- **Be Safe**
- **Be responsible**
- **Be respectful**

Students who attend the Responsible Thinking Room (RTR) work on a plan which allows them the opportunity to reflect on their disruptive behaviour and discuss better options to implement when they return to their classrooms. When a student attends the RTR, parents are notified by letter and advised of the reason why the referral was made.

The “Conflict Wheel” is a tool we encourage students to use when dealing with difficult situations, and teachers will be focusing on these strategies as part of the behaviour plan to make sure that children understand how to use them.

**HOT DATES for MARCH**

- 5,6 Scholastic Book Sale
- 13 Photo Day
- 18 Art Incursion Yrs 3-7
- 24 Open Day
- 25 P&C AGM
- 29 Car Boot Sale
ENCOURAGE READING!

Reading - Fluency

Learning to read is a complex and multi-faceted progression of skill development. Latest research into reading development indicates six key developmental attributes underpin this process:

- Oral Language
- Comprehension
- Phonological Awareness
- Letter/Sound knowledge (also known as Phonics)
- Vocabulary
- Fluency

What is Fluency? Fluency is the ability to read a text accurately, quickly and with expression. Fluency is important because it provides a bridge between knowing what each word says (decoding the print) and understanding what the words are telling us (comprehension).

Fluent readers:

- recognize words automatically
- group words quickly to help them gain meaning from what they read
- read aloud effortlessly and with expression (their reading sounds natural, as if they are speaking)
- recognize words and understand the information in the text at the same time.

Readers who have not yet developed fluency or are reading a text that is too difficult for them will read slowly, word by word. Their oral reading is choppy. Their understanding of the text is low.

Consider the times you have listened to your child read. Have you ever listened to them reading a challenging text? How much of the text did they understand when they were working so hard to figure out what the words actually said? Usually, comprehension (for any reader, adult or child) is lowered when reading more difficult texts because most of the brain’s work (its cognitive load) is taken up with decoding and working out what each word actually is.

When teachers select texts for students to work with, they use a range of difficulty levels depending on what their teaching focus is. If they are working on developing fluency, the texts will usually be slightly easier to lighten the cognitive load and allow the text to ‘flow’ for the student. Fluency activities at school can involve regular re-reading of a text, repeated reading of a section of text, listening to stories being read by someone else, readers’ theatre activities, reading texts that use rhyme and rhythm and let’s not forget pure reading for pleasure. Many of these activities are able to be done at home too to reinforce reading fluency.

Listen to your child read their home reader or some of their library book out loud. Do they sound fluent? If the home reader or text is too hard for the child to be able to read it fluently, read the book with your child, consider changing it for a different book or else speak with your child’s teacher about accessing texts at a level that will better build fluency.

Want a fluent reader? Read the same texts multiple times to build confidence. Read easier texts. Read parts of the text aloud with fluency for your children and model what good readers sound like (remember to use expression!) Listen to audiobooks e.g. on the iPad. Read for pleasure with your child and encourage them to read for pleasure.

Happy reading! ....& remember “Kids Who Read Succeed!”

Jayne Barnett (Deputy Principal)

P&C Easter Fundraiser

Wow!! We have had many families return their payment for the Easter fundraiser. Remember, if you want to be in the draw for the Cadbury hamper, your money needs to be returned by 3 pm Friday 7 March. Thank you and good luck to those who have returned their money.

We have 60 boxes left and would love it if any families who have not taken a box would consider coming to collect one. You can take them to Mum/Dad’s work, Nan/Pop’s work, walk your local neighbourhood with your child as some families have, and get the community involved. PLEASE do not send children by themselves! It would be great to meet our target of $6000 for the school and the success of this will impact on future fundraisers that the P&C participates in. So give it a go. You have until the 21 March to sell a box. Thanks Birkdale State School P&C (call Bev on 0411032266 if you cannot make it to school for collection)

Collection will be:
Thursday afternoon from 2.45 - 3.15 pm and Friday morning from 8.15 am - 8.45 am
Music Notes…

Uniform Sizing
This week all students who are in the Band, Strings and Choral program will be sized for Music uniforms. Uniforms are issued once the general music levy (refer to Parent Handbook) for the group has been paid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uniform</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band Resource Jnr</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>String Ensemble</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensemble Resource</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bumblebees</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Choir</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Group</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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</tbody>
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There will be an information letter that comes home with the uniform outlining the details of which parts are provided by the school and which parts are to be provided by you. Please stick strictly to the requirements – particularly with the polo shirts and white business shirts. In the past, some students have shown up for performances or photos in incorrect uniform and it is terribly embarrassing for them not to have the same as everyone else. At Birkdale, we set a high standard in performance dress and it is expected that students will be presented in their full uniform, hair neat, correct school-coloured accessories and jewellery for every performance.

Voice Fusion Workshop – Senior Choir
I have nominated the Senior Choir to attend a fantastic workshop on Thursday 3 April (Wk9). ONLY 10 SCHOOLS IN THE REGION WILL BE SELECTED. If selected, the choir will have a great opportunity to come together with other choirs across the region to perform and receive instruction from internationally renowned conductor and composer, Harley Mead. They will combine for two massed choir rehearsals and also present two pieces from their own repertoire for adjudication and feedback. What a wonderful opportunity for Birkdale. More information will be issued if we are successful in gaining an invitation.

Bumblebee Auditions
Auditions have been finalised today. Notes for the successful new Bumblebees will be issued this Friday. A list will also be placed on the Music Room door. Remember to encourage your child to participate in the Mini Singers club, every Wednesday lunch time, if they have missed out on a spot this year.

SPORT NEWS

District Reps:
Four students were selected in Redland District netball teams last week. Rianah gained selection in the junior team while Lynette, Lisa and Hayley were chosen in the senior team. The girls will compete at the regional trials which are being held in early April. Well done, girls!

Osprey Cup:
We will be sending four soccer teams to compete in the ‘Osprey Cup’ on Thursday, 20 March. This is a sporting competition between Birkdale, Birkdale South, Alexandra Hills and Wellington Point and is conducted at Wellington Point S.H.S. Our junior and senior teams have been selected during the last week and will look forward to this event to test their soccer skills. Refer: Alan Menzies

STUDENT COUNCIL 2014
CAR BOOT SALE
WHEN: SATURDAY 29 MARCH
WHERE: BIRKDALE STAFF CAR PARK
TIME: 8 am - 12 noon
COST: $10.00 per car, ticket holders only.
TICKETS: IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL OFFICE 8 AM - 8.30 AM MARCH 17, MARCH 28
Pack all your treasures into your boot and come and sell, sell, sell!
ALL UNSOLD ITEMS MUST BE REMOVED BY THE OWNER.
STUDENT COUNCIL & BIRKDALE STATE SCHOOL TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Birkdale State School P&C AGM will now be held, as usual, in the Library at 7 pm but on TUESDAY 25 MARCH due to work commitments of current P&C members. Please pass this on to any friends who may have been planning to attend. P&C is a great way to be involved in your child’s school. Remember, to have a vote on P&C decisions, you need to be a member and this is as easy as filling in a form from the rack in the office and attending a meeting. You can give as much or as little time that suits you. You do not need to attend all meetings or help at all events, just an hour or two here and there really does help with running our P&C.
Come along and see what happens.

CLASS AND INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS
Advancedlife Photography will be taking Class and Individual Photos on Thursday 13 March. Payment and order envelopes have been sent home today with each child. Payment envelopes are to be returned ONLY ON PAYMENT DAY – Thursday 13 March. Students are to attend in full school uniform, neat and tidy.
If you have any queries, please contact Advancedlife Photography on 3216 8280

GOOD JOB ON THE BIRKDALE BLITZ! YR 4 DEMONSTRATORS NEXT WEEK!