THE KULUIN SCHOOL

Principal
Alison Welch
Deputy Principals
Jill Kindt
Dale Wolfenden
Head of Special Ed Services
Catherine Dolphin
Business Manager
Beulah O’Shea
Office
Karen Krutli
Ashleigh Schultz
Guidance Officer
Kim Smith
School Chaplain
Glen Chambers

P&C
President - Ben Armsstone
pandc@kuluinss.eq.edu.au
Tuckshop
Kellie Bell - 5477 3748
Outside School Hours Care
Pam Kildey - 5477 0175
Newsletter Email Address
newsletteritems@kuluinss.eq.edu.au

Assembly
Prep, 1, & 2
Thursday 9:00am
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Tuesday 9:00am

Break Times
First Bell: 8:50am School Commences: 9:00am
First Session: 9–11:00am First Break: 11–11:40am
Second Session: 11:40–1:40pm Second Break: 1:40–2:10pm
Last Session: 2:10–3:00pm

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

End of Semester 1
With the end of the Semester drawing to a close, it is time for us to reflect on our progress so far. Congratulations to Mrs Samaha, her dedicated team of helpers and the students for a wonderful celebration of the talent at Kuluin demonstrated during the Mulan performances. The many months of preparation were rewarded with outstanding performances.

We wish our Year 6’s the very best while on Camp at Tallebudgera. I am sure there will be plenty of stories to share on their return.

It is pleasing to see as a school we are gaining on our school attendance goal of 94% and are a very real chance of achieving it. Remember, every day counts. At Kuluin, we come to school all day, every day.

Please take the time to read the attached letter regarding Report Cards. It is an important time of the year, when we formally report to parents on the progress of students. Report Cards will be emailed to parents by Wednesday the 24th of June and printed and sent home on Thursday the 25th of June.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and restful holiday and look forward to seeing you all recharged and ready to go on Monday the 13th of July.

Dale Wolfenden

Important Information for all Parents, Carers and Students

Due to the wet weather, the P-2 Athletics Carnival on Friday June 19 from 11:40am to 1:40pm has been postponed. The P-2 Athletics Carnival will be held on August 7th.

Dental News
The Dental Van is arriving at Kuluin SS on Friday 17th July. Free dental treatment is available for all students, regardless of whether your child is or is not eligible for Child Dental Benefit Scheme (CDBS) funding. A Consent/Medical History form & CDBS flyer have initially been handed out to all students in Prep and Years 1, 2 and 6. Please complete forms and return to the school office for collection by school dental staff.

Any enquiries, staff can be contacted at Kawana Dental Clinic Phone: 54384200, Maroochydore Dental Clinic Phone: 54433929 or Dental Van phone: 0407695226 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

Dance Fever
Dance fever is on again in term 3. Every Wednesday the students will be participating in a fun dance lesson with Dance Fever instructors. Whether it be dancing as a couple, a team or as an individual, the Dance Fever Program teaches children numerous styles of dance so that a range of different dance skills can be learnt and displayed by students. Students learn not only dance skills but social etiquette and interaction with peers.

Letters are being sent home this week, please check your child’s bag. The cost will be $30 per child, Prep to Year 6.

School Opinion Survey
The annual School Opinion Survey will be conducted between 29 June and 31 July 2015. All families, school staff and a random sample of students will be invited to participate. We encourage you to take this opportunity to have your say about what this school does well, and how this school can improve.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey will be sent home with students with their report cards.

Survey queries or requests for translations can be directed to Catherine Dolphin on telephone 54773777.
Sports News

Due to the wet weather, the P-2 Athletics Carnival on Friday June 19 from 11:40am to 1:40pm has been postponed. The P-2 Athletics Carnival will be held on August 7th.

Congratulations to Sanvannah 5th in the 10 year olds race (40 Competitors) and Noah 10th in the 12 year olds race (56 Competitors) at the recent Regional Cross Country trials. Due to Savannah’s outstanding effort, she was selected as a member of the Sunshine Coast Regional team and will now compete at the Qld School Championships at the Gold Coast in July.

Tony Doherty PE Teacher

Mulan

What a wonderful celebration of the amazing talent at Kuluin that was demonstrated during the three Mulan performances. Its a credit to the dedication of staff, parents and students through all the rehearsing, costume design, music, lighting and sound and much more. Well done.

Under 8’s Day

Under 8’s day for 2015 will be held on Friday June 26th from 11.40am to 1.40pm. The activities on the morning will be related to this year’s theme “Voices of Children”

Multi-Raffle: There are lots of sporting prizes to be won. Tickets will be on sale for $1.00.

Activities: All students will have the opportunity to be involved in fun activities and games such as face painting, mask making, soccer and AFL skills, hair spray, play dough, kite making, biscuit decorating and much more.

Artwork Auction: Each class will complete an Artistic Masterpiece on canvas. These will be on display in the hall during Under 8’s Day. Each painting is for sale to the highest bidder, through a silent process.

Students are required to wear free dress that is sun safe with closed in shoes and a sun safe hat.
Dear Parents

End of semester Report Cards

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland have been gradually becoming more familiar with a more uniform process for reporting in all schools. The use of a more consistent 5-point scale:

- Prep – Year 2: Applying, Making Connections, Working With, Exploring, Becoming Aware
- Years 3 to 6: A, B, C, D, E

has been one of the significant developments.

Most of us who were schooled in generations past are familiar with the A-E scale and for many it offers a great deal more comfort and better understanding of achievement.

An important point that deserves clarification though, is that the 5 point scale has some subtle differences these days and that when we see a “Working With or C” on our child’s report card it means something a little different to what it used to on our own report cards, many years ago.

In the past the achievement scale used a “Bell Curve” distribution which means that a small group of top students in the class got an “A”, the next group got a “B”, the majority of the class were given a “C” and so on until the whole class represented a distribution from A-E. This means that it was harder to get an “A” in a school filled with academic students and easier to get one in a school with less academic students.

The new system works on “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria” such that, what constitutes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc. is predetermined. Any student who shows evidence of meeting that level deserves that grade.

This is where we consider the difference in what a “Working With or C” really means:

A “Working With or C” no longer means that the student is simply in the middle of the class, it means that the student has met the criteria for a learner at the appropriate age level.

A “Working With or C” means that the student is doing everything required at their Year Level.

The best description is that a “Working With or C” means a student’s academic development is exactly where it needs to be – A “Working With or C” is ON TARGET or AT YEAR LEVEL STANDARD.

With all of this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or a “B” than it used to be. These grades are no longer awarded simply to the top students in the class; they are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria for their year level.

So what does all this mean?

- Many parents are likely to see more “Working With or C” grades on their child’s report cards.
- The “Effort” grades are a really important reflection of whether your child is achieving the best they can.
- An “A” for effort and a “C” for achievement indicates that your child is “On Target” for their age and “applying their best effort”. This grade should be celebrated with students because they have worked hard to be where they need to be.

How to Read your child’s Report Card
Many parents on receiving their child’s report card for the first time are unsure of how to read it. All parents of children enrolled in a Queensland State School receive the same formatted report card twice a year.

These written reports are a culmination of how a child has achieved in their academic studies over a school semester. The report cards contain the following information:

- An overall academic achievement for each subject
- An effort achievement and
- A comment

The academic and effort achievement use the following five (5) point scale to indicate a child’s cumulative achievement in a semester.

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<th>Prep</th>
<th>Academic</th>
<th>Effort</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applying</td>
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<td>Making Connections</td>
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<td>Working With</td>
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<td>Year 1 – Year 2</td>
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<td>Support Required</td>
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<td>Year 3 – Year 6</td>
<td>A, B, C, D, E</td>
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<td>Very Good</td>
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The academic and effort achievements are consistent across all Queensland State Schools.

As mentioned previously the end of semester report card is a culmination of your child’s results over the semester. Parent teacher interviews are offered to all parents at the end of Term 1 and Term 3. This is an opportunity for parents to discuss their child’s academic progress.

It is important to note that not every aspect of every subject (English, maths, science etc.) is assessed and reported on each semester or term. This means that the result students receive on their end of semester is indicative of the content that has been taught and assessed during that semester, and not necessarily indicative of the entire subject content. This means that a student’s results may vary from semester to semester, because they are being assessed and reported on different aspects of the subject/curriculum.

As always if you have any concerns about your child’s progress please see your child’s teacher as soon as possible.

Semester 1 report cards will be emailed home to parents on Wednesday the 24th of June. Printed copies will be sent home on the 25th of June. From Semester 2, all Report Cards will be emailed home and printed copies will need to collected from the office.

Regards
Dale Wolfenden
Deputy Principal