



Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Members of the Kippa-Ring State School Community,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024!



It was exciting to welcome everyone to our school over the last two weeks. There were so many happy, excited faces to greet on Monday morning. The first week of term is an opportunity to set up the expectations for how we want the year to progress, and our classroom teachers spent the first week getting to know the children in their classes and setting up the rules for their classrooms. This work is done collaboratively with the children, and is aligned to our whole school behaviour expectations matrix. The children spent time creating their behaviour goals for the term and will work towards these throughout the term. It was a busy week where we focussed on getting to know each other, and getting back into learning.

By now, you should have received a class newsletter from your child's teacher which outlines some of the curriculum content they will be learning this year. Your children have settled in well to their new classrooms, and it is wonderful to see them getting straight into their learning for this year.

## Enrolments

We have continued to receive a steady flow of new enrolments into the school over the past two weeks, and we are currently sitting at 285 students and continue to receive new enrolments. This has been a significant growth in our numbers from 2023. We are incredibly proud of our school, and are looking forward to working with our parent community this year.

## Staffing

This year we have welcomed some new staff to our school, Mrs Lindie de Lange is our new HPE teacher, Mrs Sarah Wilson is our new Arts Teacher, and Miss Jessica Carle in 5C.

## Our 2024 Classroom Teaching Team

<b>Prep S</b>	Maree Sands	<b>3S</b>	Keira Saltau Meg Mastorgio
<b>Prep T</b>	Libby Tonakis	<b>4D</b>	Caitie Walters
<b>1C</b>	Eleanor Cann	<b>4/5O</b>	Jen Olsen
<b>1/2P</b>	Helene Piekarski	<b>5C</b>	Jessica Carle
<b>2W</b>	Courtney West	<b>6L</b>	Greg Liekefett
<b>3C</b>	Christine Carkeet Rob Stewart	<b>6M</b>	Kym Miller

## Whole School Priorities

Last year we set ourselves a goal of having 80% of our students achieving a "C" or above in English. We are happy to be able to share that we achieved 83.4% of our students reaching this target, which was a 7.5% increase on last years result. One of our other goals was to improve engagement and attendance of our students. We had a 6.3% increase in our attendance data for the year. This was higher than the region and similar schools in our area. What an achievement!

In 2024, we have aligned out whole school priorities with the Department of Education's Equity and Excellence priorities of Educational Achievement, Wellbeing and Engagement, and Culture and Inclusion. We aim to do this by focussing on the following:

### Priority 1:

Improving educational achievement for all students through consistent targeted whole school pedagogy.

### Priority 2:

To improve the wellbeing of staff and students through enactment of the newly developed 'Staff Wellbeing Plan' and creation of the 'Student Wellbeing Plan.'

### Priority 3:

To enhance the engagement of all students through creating genuine connections with families from all

cultures.


All the work we do as a school in 2024 will have direct links back to these priorities. Our staff are committed to providing all of our students with the highest quality education possible in a welcoming, safe and supportive environment.

### Every Day Counts

At Kippa-Ring State School, we are very lucky to have our Engagement Office, Jill Burden working with us to support families with getting to school every day. We know that if your child attends school every day, they have more chance of success in the future, and are less likely to fall behind in their learning. The table below outlines how just one day a fortnight can impact on a child's learning over the course of the 13 years of schooling. We are here to help so please reach out if you need support getting your children to school every day.

EVERY DAY COUNTS ...				
A day here or there doesn't seem like much but ...				
When your child misses just ...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...	This means the best your child can achieve is ...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks of school	Nearly 1½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks of school	Over 2½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks of school	Over 5 years of learning of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	24 weeks of school	Over 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed ...



This year, we strive to have the attendance rate above **90%**. If your child is absent from school it is important that you notify the school with the reason. If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, for any reason, please *contact your child's class teacher and discuss this with them.*

If your child has a pattern of absences or ongoing absences, you will be contacted by the class teacher or Jill Burden, our Engagement Officer. They will be contacting you to check on your child, and to offer support if it is needed. If your child continues to have a high rate of absenteeism, you will be invited to meet with Jill to discuss barriers and supports available to improve your child's attendance.

The school will endeavour to work with you to support your child's attendance; we want all Kippa-Ring State School students to have the best possible outcomes and success in the future.

### Parent Confidence Project

We are fortunate enough to be able to welcome Stephanie Quigley to our school on Tuesdays as our School Wellbeing Officer. Stephanie will be running a "Parent Confidence Project," commencing next week from 1.30 pm in our Parent Room. This project will run over 6 weeks, and is limited to 20 parents. It aims to support parents to foster their child's emotional development.

To register your interest, please complete a form which is available from the office.

### P & C Meeting

Our first P & C meeting for the year will be held on **Tuesday 20 February** in the Resource Centre at 5pm. This year, we will be looking for parents to join our Executive Committee, so please come along to our first meeting and see what it is all about.

Have a wonderful Weekend

Until next time

Regards  
**Kerri McGrath**  
**Principal**



### FROM THE HOD: CURRICULUM NEWS

#### Welcome back for 2024

Classes have hit the ground running and students have settled in well.

At Kippa-Ring State School, we use Seesaw in our teaching and learning, as well as communicating with parents. If you do not yet have access, please contact your child's teacher. For more information on Seesaw, please see: [Seesaw Help Centre Families & Students](#)

#### eSafety Focus

Many parents over the past few years have asked for some ideas on how they can look after their children in an online environment. Technology availability, entertainment options and app development has moved at a rapid pace. At the risk of seeming like an old man, back in my day there was one TV and it was in the loungeroom. We all watched it, shared and, sometimes, even argued over what we wanted to watch, together. When we our family bought a desktop PC, it was in a communal area where there were other people around. With tablets, smart TVs, mobile phones and even smart watches, there is the chance of our

children being exposed to material well beyond their years and for us, as parents, to not even know.

During 2024, I will share some tips and tricks that may support or be a talking point that you can have with your child and others. Remember that were all navigating this world together.

### eSafety Tips and Tricks #1 – Being Safe - It begins with us

- If your child has been using a device, whether it is a tablet, computer or even your own phone at times, regularly review the in-built safety settings and parental controls. Check to ensure that children do not have access to paid portals like App Store. Place devices in a common area and ask be interested in what they are doing to normalise regular check-ins. See iOS: [Use parental controls on your child's iPhone, iPad and iPod touch](#)  
Android: [Manage devices, apps & screen time](#)
- Our children might be aware of 'stranger danger', but it's vital to explain how this works in an online world. It's important to teach them that their personal information such as their name, date of birth, school and address should not be shared with anyone they don't know.
- We are still our children's greatest role models. When they see us looking at our phone, we are imprinting this behaviour on them. As parents who are also part of the online world, it can be challenging to find the balance. By finding time to 'switch off' (put the phone on aeroplane mode) or taking part in positive interactions together (such as making connections with family members through video calling), we are showing our kids that we can maintain control over when we use devices and why.

### FINANCE NEWS

Over the year, we may have some activities that require payment. As a reminder of time lines for these payments, we will add this 'Finance Calendar' to the newsletter. It is very important that payment is received by the advised date, but please remember to advise the office if you are experiencing financial difficulties, and need to organise a payment plan.

Excursion/Activity	Yr Level	Cost	Due By
2024 Prep SRS	Prep	\$120	23/02/2024
<b>Instrumental Music: (Strings and Brass)</b>			
Student Resource Scheme	Various	\$40	22/03/2024
Instrument Hire	Various	\$60	22/03/2024

"Student Invoices" for the above activities have been emailed to parents, or sent home with students this week.

### Payment Options

The Department of Education's preferred method of payment is using the **BPoint** option. The link is on the bottom of your child's invoice. Please remember to email yourself your BPoint receipt.

Other payment options are:

- **Cash** – please try to have the correct monies, as we do not always have change available.
- **EFTPOS** – credit card or debit card in person at the office between 8am & 10am; Tuesday to Friday.
- **Direct Deposit** into the school's bank account.  
*Account Name: Kippa-Ring State School*  
*BSB: 064 – 166*  
*Account Number: 00090032*  
Please use your child's name and what you are paying for as a reference. For example: John Smith Camp.
- **Centrepay** – set up an account with Centrelink to have deductions taken from your account. The schools CRN is: 555140274K

### OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Helping Hands Network has joined the Kippa-Ring State School community to deliver **onsite Outside School Hours Care** – before school, after school as well as during school holiday periods and staff development days.



It is a licencing requirement that **any child using the service must be enrolled**. As there is **no fee to enrol** with Helping Hands, it is recommended that all children are enrolled so that the service is available for your family, even if only on an emergency needs basis.

You can enrol online through the parent portal at: [www.helpinghandsnetwork.com.au](http://www.helpinghandsnetwork.com.au)

## MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Some students may require medication at school to manage ongoing health conditions, short term illnesses, or for a medical emergency. These medications can be described as 'routine,' 'as-needed,' or 'emergency first aid.'



All medications, including those purchased over the counter without a prescription (ie Panadol, nurofen, or alternative medications etc) may cause side effects or adverse reactions. As such, state schools are required to have medical authorisation from a prescribing health practitioner to administer most medications to students. In Queensland schools, the only medication that doesn't require this authorisation is the emergency first aid medications kept in the first aid kits.

**Routine Medication** is medication that is prescribed to be taken regularly over a period of time. This included medications such as Ritalin, Dexamphetamine etc.

**'As needed' Medication** is medication that health practitioners may prescribe to students in response to certain symptoms. This may include antibiotics, asthma inhalers, medicated creams, paracetamol etc.

**Emergency first aid medications** is medication that is used in an emergency – EpiPen, Asthma relievers.

For staff to be able to administer medication to your child at school, it is important that we receive authorisation from you, the parent or caregiver.

A **'Consent to Administer Medication'** form must be filled out for all medications. If your child needs more than one medication at school, a 'Consent to Administer Medication' form is to be filled out for each medication. A 'Record of Medication Administration' form for routine medication, or 'as needed' medication must also be filled out. These forms are available from the school office.

**All medication received at school, must:**

- ✓ Be in the original packaging/container. This also applies to any 'top up' medication we receive.
- ✓ Have a pharmacy label, advising the name of the medication, the students name, the prescribing doctor & dosage required; and
- ✓ Not be past it's expiry date.

Students requiring Asthma medication, Diabetes medication or an EpiPen must supply the school with an **Action Plan**, which has been written and signed by a doctor or nurse practitioner. **These action plans should be updated every 12 months.**

The prescribing doctor should also provide written instructions to the school if a student's 'routine' medication changes (ie dosage, or medication at school no longer needed).

**School approval is required for the 'self-administration' of all routine or 'as needed' medication for primary school students.** Students cannot be approved to self-administer controlled drugs, such as Ritalin. **No student should be carrying their asthma inhalers in their school bags, or storing them in the classroom without approval from the Principal.**

It is **important** to note, that if your child has a newly diagnosed medical condition, such as ASD, ADHD, Asthma, Allergies etc., you should advise the school as soon as possible, so this information can be uploaded onto the One School system. If we aren't aware, we are not able to support your child, in the case of a health emergency.

If you require further information, contact the school office on 3897 533 and the ladies will be able to help you out.

## BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROCEDURES

**The gates at Korsch Street will be unlocked at 8:10am. Students should not arrive at school before 8am, as they will be without supervision until 8.15am.**

We understand that there may be times that you need to drop your child off early to school, but should it become an everyday occurrence, please consider using our Outside School Hours Care facility – Helping Hands. Students arriving before 8.15am, **without** a parent or caregiver, must wait in the Area C undercover area (near the school office).

**Before School procedures** – Parents **with** children are asked to wait in Area B (the large undercover area near the Hall) if arriving before the 8.40am bell. Please actively supervise your child whilst in this area to ensure that they

have a calm, positive start to the learning day. Students arriving without parental supervision are to wait in Area C (undercover area near the school office). Staff members will be on hand to supervise students in Area C from 8.15am, until the 8.40am bell.

**End of day collection** - Please **do not** go to classrooms or stand outside on verandas as this distracts the students from their end of day routine.

Students who have not been collected by the 3.10pm bell, (at the end of the day), will be brought to the office, and their parent/caregiver will be called.

If you **know** that you are going to be 'late' picking up your child, please advise the office as soon as possible via a phone call – **3897 5333**. As the Office is quite a busy place most days, please do not email, send a text message, message via the Facebook Messenger App or send a message to the class teacher via the SeeSaw App. A phone call is the most accurate form of communication.

**If you don't think that you will make it before 3.30pm**, please let us know so that we can make arrangements to keep your child safe until you arrive. **The office hours are 8am to 3.30pm**. Please consider enrolling your child at our Outside School Hours Care facility – Helping Hands for instances where you may be running very late for pick up.

**The playgrounds are off limits to younger siblings and students at the end of the day.**

We welcome parents who wish to '**Stop, Drop and Go**'. *For the safety of our students and staff, we ask that you **do not drive/park in the staff carpark.***

### **EARLY COLLECTION OF STUDENTS – Change to procedures**

If you need to collect your child early from school, students **will no longer be called down to wait in the Office.**

Parents/Caregivers are asked to come into the Office to collect an Early Departure slip, which will then allow you to go to your child's classroom for you to collect your child. Please give your 'sign out slip' to the teacher.

If collection is needed **during Break time**, children will be permitted to wait in the office if we receive prior notification of early pick up. Otherwise, your child will be called out over the school PA system and asked to collect their bag and come to the office.

Please allow extra time for this if you have an appointment to attend. Teachers may have a duty, and classrooms will be locked during break times.

### **ON TIME ARRIVAL**

By the 8.50am bell, students are expected to be in their classrooms, ready for learning. It is an important legal responsibility for parents to have their children at school on time.



On time arrivals, and excellent attendance makes a huge difference to student habits, and learning outcomes.

**All students arriving to school at 8.50am, and afterwards must present at the Office to collect a "late slip."**

Students who are at the Uniform Shop or Tuckshop before school, **MUST** go to class when the 8.40am bells rings. If they are still at the Uniform Shop or Tuckshop when the 8.50am bell rings, they must present at the office for a late slip.

Parents/caregivers will receive a text message, advising of their child's absence, if a 'late slip' has not been issued.

### **ENROLMENT**

#### **Prep 2025 Enrolment**

**Children born between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020 are eligible to start Prep in 2025.**

If you have a child starting in Prep next year, please contact the office on 3897 5333 to add your child's name to our 2025 Prep Enrolment list.



Dates for school tours with our principal will be organised shortly, and posted on our school's official Facebook page – **Kippa-Ring State School – school site**

#### **Year 1 to 6 Enrolment**

We are still accepting enrolments for the 2024 school year. To register your interest and book an enrolment interview, please call the office on 3897 5333.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The School Office is open from 8.00am to 3.30pm. Please call 3897 5333 between these times, or leave a message if the office is unattended. The office is a busy place in the morning, as the ladies get prepared for the start of the day, and so they will not be available for parents/caregivers or students before 8am, unless it is an emergency.

### Updating Student Details

*Have you moved house recently? Have your contact details or those of your Emergency Contacts changed? Does your child have any newly diagnosed medical conditions?*

If so, it is important to update them with the school. Please drop in at the Office to update your details or advise by calling 3897 5333.



### Visitor and Volunteer Sign in Procedure

If you are visiting the school for a meeting with the Principal or a Teacher, or are a Learning Support volunteer in the classroom, we ask that you sign in at the Office.



Volunteers who are helping out at the Uniform Shop/Tuckshop should sign in, and out there.

Volunteers, who are not parents of current students, are required to show the office a copy of their blue card, and complete the required induction processes, before they can enter the school site.

***Please stay at home if you are feeling unwell, and/or are showing signs of a cold or flu (temperatures, sore throat, cough, runny nose.)*** The health and safety of the staff and students at Kippa-Ring SS is our number 1 priority.

### “Like” us on Facebook!

The best way for you to keep updated with any news or activities happening at school is to ‘like’ us on our official

Facebook page – Kippa-Ring State School – school site

We will quite often post information regarding upcoming events, office closures, fire or lockdown drills etc.



### CENTREPAY is here!!

Centrepay is HERE!! We are now accepting Centrepay payments for all school invoices. This is a free and voluntary service to pay your bills and expenses, as regular deductions from your Centrelink payments. Unfortunately, this option will not be available for the purchasing of uniforms or Tuckshop.

Centrepay is a free and voluntary service to pay your bills and expenses as regular deductions from your Centrelink payments. You can start, change or stop deductions at any time.

### How can I participate?

You can request Centrepay by:

- ☺ using the online service through your myGov account
- ☺ call Centrelink on your regular payment line
- ☺ using the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app on your mobile device

### What details do you need?

- ✓ your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN)
- ✓ bill details
- ✓ the name of the business you are paying (Kippa-Ring State School)
- ✓ the business address and phone number (400 Elizabeth Ave, Kippa-Ring Q 4021 3897 5333)
- ✓ the business's CRN - 555140274K

### You then choose,

- ✓ how much you want to pay to the school each fortnight
- ✓ which Centrelink payment you want the deduction to come out of
- ✓ the date you want to start
- ✓ when you want deductions to end

Further information/details can be found in the below link.

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/set-up-centrepay-deductions?context=22366#a2>

## PLAYGROUP

Kippa-Ring State School Playgroup returned this Friday **9 February** in our new space – the Kippa Parent Room, which is located next to the Prep classrooms.

Playgroup is open to all Pre-Prep students and costs nothing to attend. Children participate in some fun activities, including indoor and outdoor play, a music program, games and arts & crafts to enhance fine motor skills.



**Playgroup is held every Friday morning, during the school term, from 8.35am to 10.15am.**

For more information, please contact the school office on 3897 5333.

## AROUND THE SCHOOL NEWS

### Kippa's Coffee & Chat Parent Room

Kippa's Coffee and Chat Room is back!!

Come and have a coffee and catch up with other Kippa parents on **Wednesday afternoons** in our room which is located next to Prep/1T.

The room will be open from 2pm to 2.50pm each Wednesday afternoon (during the school term), and has a play area for the younger siblings.



### 2024 Senior Leader Investiture



On **Monday 12 February at 9.30am** in our school hall, we will welcome in our 2024 School Leaders, at a special whole school assembly.

Parents/caregivers and other family members are invited to attend this special occasion to watch our School Captains, House Captains etc be sworn in as senior leaders.

Invitations were emailed out to the families of our 2024 Senior Leaders, and a reminder was sent home with students this week.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### Kippa's Kindness Day

On **Friday 16 February**, students will come together to celebrate 'Random Act of Kindness Day', engaging in various activities to spread positivity throughout the school. Among the planned events is a heart-warming, whole school song and mural, as well as a "fill your bucket" activity, uniting everyone in the spirit of kindness and compassion.

It's worth noting that this special day is **not a free dress day**, and **no donations are required**, emphasizing the focus on genuine acts of kindness. The students can enter a colouring in competition to win a prize.



## 2023 Mimi's House Graduation

Last year, on Sunday 10 December our 2023 Mimi's House students attended their graduation ceremony at the Hope Centre.

It was a fun filled afternoon with face painting, games, an ice cream station, that Archie visited regularly, as well as food and drink stations. After their special ceremony there was an amazing and engaging concert and our families were also given a special hamper to take home.

Our children and families had an awesome night and it was a wonderful conclusion to the student's Wednesdays spent attending Mimi's House.



## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS

### 2024 Instrumental Music Program

Students who nominated their interest in participating in the 2024 Instrumental Music Program, under the tuition of our teachers Mrs Newton (Strings) & Mr Hobbs (Brass & Woodwind), will have received their permission form etc by now.

Payment for this program – Instrument Hire (\$60) and Instrumental Music Student Resource Scheme (\$40) is due to the office by **Friday 22 March**. However, students who are needing to hire an instrument from the school **MUST** make their payment of \$60 for instrument hire, in full before they are able to take the instrument home.



## From the Classrooms

This year Kippa Ring State School teachers are all implementing PLD into their classrooms. PLD is an Australian, evidence-based approach to Structured Synthetic Phonics (SSP) for teachers. PLD is aligned with the Science of Reading and extends from the junior primary years through to upper primary years. This enables our teachers at Kippa Ring to provide a whole school approach.

PLD's method is underpinned by elements of speech pathology, occupational therapy and education (How we learn to read and write). We are passionate about improving our teaching of our students and for them to be successful into their futures.

**PLD**

The Key Areas that Maximise Academic Achievement

Access milestone downloads, video clips and resources at [www.pld-literacy.org](http://www.pld-literacy.org)

### What is Literacy/ Spelling and Decoding?

Spelling and decoding or "word attack" skills are derived from:

- Phonological awareness or 'sounding out ability'
- Alphabet knowledge - and particularly the 'sounds'
- Phonic knowledge
- Sight word knowledge

But the hallmark of literacy proficiency is the ability to read and comprehend the material read and written expression ability (as opposed to spelling ability).

These hallmark skills are influenced also by the Skills Set 1 and 2 listed above.

### What is Oral Language?

Oral language refers to the act of speaking and listening. The main components include:

- Word knowledge - vocabulary
- Sentence structure - grammar
- Language understanding - semantic and comprehension ability
- Structured thinking - the ability to elaborate, organise and sequence thoughts

Students need to be able to process information heard and explain the information in order to be successful within the curriculum.

### What is Movement and Motor?

Peroceptual motor refers to the ability to hear something, interpret the meaning and form an appropriate motor response. Importantly the way a child organises and uses their body is a significant part of literacy-based learning.

- Perceptual - input or receiving the message
- Motor - output or the response

In schools students are constantly required to complete curriculum activities which involve physical movements. The more smooth and fluid these body movements are the more efficiently a student will keep up with the pace of a classroom and complete work of a satisfying standard.

As parents, you will see your child when working at home employing the blending and segmenting skills that we teaching at school. Allow your children to explain the process to you and please contact your class teacher if you have any questions.

## P & C NEWS

The Tuckshop and Uniform Shop now have **online ordering**. The QKR App is available in the App Store or Google Play.



Click on KippaRing state school and create an account for your child. For anyone having trouble with the App, accounts can be made through the online store at <https://qkr-store.qkrschool.com/store/#/home> where lunches and uniforms can be ordered through the webpage.

You can order lunch for each break, and pay for it without having to line up at the Tuckshop each morning!

**Orders MUST be in by 9.00am, otherwise you will be unable to order lunch for that day.** Set an alarm on your phone if you think you may forget!

## TUCKSHOP NEWS

### Tuckshop opening times for 2023:

- ✓ **Wednesday** – 8.15am to 11.15am
- ✓ **Thursday & Friday** – 8.15am to 2.15pm
  
- Just a reminder to please ensure **ALL orders are placed by 9am sharp**, and record your child's name and their class on the ordering bag. **Any orders received after 9am will only be able to order the "Late Pack"** which is a ham or cheese sandwich, popper and a piece of fruit for \$5.
- Tina is always looking for volunteers to help out in the Tuckshop on Thursday and Friday mornings with meal prepping, sorting lunch bags, and assisting with uniform sales. Please drop in, and say hello and if interested, add your name and details to the roster or email her at [krsstuckshop@gmail.com](mailto:krsstuckshop@gmail.com)

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

If you wish to pre-order uniforms, please complete the order form from our website, and email it to our P&C at [pandc@kipparingss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@kipparingss.eq.edu.au) or try out our new online ordering system.

### Our opening times are:

**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings  
8.30am – 10.00am**

**Layby** is available! Please see the ladies in the Uniform Shop during opening hours, or email [krsstuckshop@gmail.com](mailto:krsstuckshop@gmail.com) Uniforms are also available for purchasing through the QKR App.

## Out of Stock!!

We are currently out of Polo Shirts in the following sizes:

- Sizes 8 / 10 / 12 and 14.

We should have stock arriving in the next couple of weeks for size 8 & 10 polo shirts, but may be waiting until next term for the size 12 & 14 polo shirts.

Apologies for any inconvenience. We will keep you informed.

## VOLUNTEERING

- Enjoy being involved at your child's school – a great way to meet new friends in your Kippa Community – the kids love seeing you here too!! Help at fundraising events like BBQs, Mothers' and Fathers' Day Stalls, Tuckshop, etc
- A Working with Children Blue Card is required if you are not a parent of a student at our school.

*We love our Volunteers*



## P&C MEETINGS

P&C Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month – see our P&C information section in the school newsletters and Facebook for notification of meetings. We love to see new members coming to these meetings, and getting involved with fundraising for our school.

- P&C Meetings - our next general meeting will be held on **Tuesday 20 February at 5pm in the Resource Centre**. All are welcome to attend!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### From Kangaroo Bus Lines ~ Your Guide for 2024 School Bus Travel

The new school year is underway, and we often get asked, "How do my kids catch the bus?" and "Am I eligible for a Bus Pass?" To help answer your questions, we've put together some helpful guidelines and tips to assist with your enquiry.

## Catching the bus

Students will either need a “Translink GO Card” or a “Bus Travel Assistance Card” to travel on all student school bus services.

**If students have a 2023 bus pass, they are current until the 29<sup>th</sup> of February.** Some bus passes are still available to be collected from the Burpengary depot. Otherwise, a new application will need to be completed.

A friendly reminder that all Kangaroo Bus services are still not accepting cash payments for bus fares, or cash for Bus Card top ups.

1. **Translink GO Card** – A payment option for school bus travel is the Translink GO Card system. If you are not eligible for one of the below transport assistance schemes, you can still get discounted daily fares by using a GO Card. These cards are available for purchase from your nearest Train Station, and some newsagencies provide this service.
2. **Bus Travel Assistance Card** – There are two types of travel assistance options. ‘**Bus Travel Assistance**’ which is based on kilometres and ‘**Safety Net Assistance**’ which is based on concessions/pensions. If you believe you are eligible for either of these, the correct paperwork will need to be completed either [online](#) or at our Head Office in Burpengary. We recommend that you submit this paperwork as soon as possible. Bus pass applications can take up to 10 – 15 business days for processing, and can be collected from the Burpengary depot – Monday to Friday from 8am to 4pm. We encourage all parents to visit our Head Office to avoid processing delays.

2024 sees several changes to our School Services timings and routes, therefore we ask that parents and caregivers go to our website and check the service their child caught last year in case of any changes.

*For more information, please call our Office on 1300 287 525 or call in and visit us at 2 Motorway Drive, Burpengary.*

## Lost Property Procedure for 2024

There have been changes to our procedures which will affect the way “Lost Property” is dealt with in 2024:

- If **Bus Passes** are lost, parents will have to call into the Depot at Burpengary to have another bus pass printed.
- **Unnamed items**, eg hats, clothing, water bottles etc will be held at the Depot until the end of term, and then these items will be disposed of.

- **Named items**, eg hats, clothing, water bottles etc – an email will be sent to the school to notify parents. If these items are not claimed by the end of term, then these items will be disposed of.
- Any items lost by a child on the bus and found, will need to be collected from the Depot. If not collected on the day, then will be held for 3 months, and then disposed of once the 3 months has expired.

Collection of items from the Depot at 2 Motorway Drive, Burpengary will be Monday to Friday, from 8am to 4pm.

## School Zone Safety – advice for motorists, parents and carers

With school back for 2024, we need to keep safety top-of-mind when travelling through active school zones and around our school community.

School zone times have been standardised in Queensland to help motorists remember when to slow down. The standard hours are 7am to 9am and 2pm to 4pm, with some operating all day from 7am to 4pm.

Children’s crossings are identified by “Children Crossing” flags, displayed near crossings before and after school hours.

When the crossing is supervised, you, as a motorist, must:

- ✓ Wait until all pedestrians, bicycle riders or personal mobility device riders have crossed the road, and the crossing supervisor has returned to the footpath.
- ✓ Abide by the direction given by the School Crossing Supervisor.

Please keep our children safe by staying alert, slowing down and obeying the school crossing supervisors who are there to help our kids cross the road safely.

You can also help your child to become more road safety aware by:

- Showing them how to look for vehicles coming & going from driveways, and discourage them from playing behind cars.
- Ensure they know the safest route to and from school, and how to cross at traffic lights when the green ‘walk’ sign is showing and the vehicles have stopped.
- Accompanying children when walking or riding to school until they are old enough to understand road safety (usually around 10 years or older.)

Visit the [Street Smarts website](#) for more information about what to do at pedestrian and children crossings.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

'Students, Parents and Teachers – Partners in Learning'

**Term 1 2024**

**Newsletters: Weeks 3, 6 & 9**

*\* Please note that these dates and activities may be subject to change at anytime*

## UPCOMING EVENTS – TERM 1

Week 3	<b>Friday 9 February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playgroup returns for 2024</li> </ul>
Week 4	<b>Monday 12 February Friday 16 February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024 Senior Leader Investiture - @ 9.30am in Hall</li> <li>• Playgroup</li> <li>• Kippa Kindness Day</li> </ul>
Week 5	<b>Monday 19 February Tuesday 20 February Friday 23 February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole School Assembly @ 2.20pm in Hall</li> <li>• P and C Meeting at 5pm in the Resource Centre. All welcome 😊</li> <li>• Playgroup</li> </ul>
Week 6	<b>Monday 26 February Friday 1 March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole School Assembly @ 2.20pm in Hall</li> <li>• Playgroup</li> </ul>
Week 7	<b>Monday 4 March Friday 8 March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole School Assembly @ 2.20pm in Hall</li> <li>• Playgroup</li> <li>• Interschool sport Year 5/6</li> </ul>
Week 8	<b>Monday 11 March Tuesday 12 March Thursday 14 March Friday 15 March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole School Assembly @ 2.20pm in Hall</li> <li>• P and C AGM at 5pm in the Resource Centre. All welcome 😊</li> <li>• Cross Country</li> <li>• Playgroup ~ Last playgroup for Term 1</li> <li>• Interschool sport Year 5/6</li> </ul>
Week 9	<b>Monday 18 March Friday 22 March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole School Assembly @ 2.20pm in Hall</li> <li>• Interschool sport Year 5/6</li> </ul>
Week 10	<b>Monday 25 March Thursday 28 March Friday 29 March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whole School Assembly @ 2.20pm in Hall</li> <li>• Last day of Term 1</li> <li>• Easter Hat Parade</li> <li>• Good Friday</li> </ul>
<b>Term 2</b>	<b>Monday 15 April Tuesday 21 May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>School resumes for Term 2!!</b></li> <li>• <b>School Phot Day 😊</b></li> </ul>

