Notes from the Principal - Lynne Stritzel

It’s wonderful to be back at Kogan SS after 2 weeks Long Service Leave. A huge thank you for Mrs Jennifer Murray for the great job she did in my absence. Mrs Murray, Mrs Von Pein and Mrs Taylor did an amazing job of organising the Cross Country which ran very smoothly on Wednesday 6th May after being rained out on Friday the 1st.

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to everyone that participated in the Cross Country, all students tried their best and sportsmanship was very evident as everyone encouraged each other over the finishing line. WELL DONE KOGAN!

Sterling, Tori, Zoey, Luke, Jessica and Shiralee will be participating at the District Cross Country held this Friday 15th May. Congratulations to these students for making it to District.

NAPLAN

Our Year 5 students participated in the annual National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) test to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests were conducted in all state and non-state school across the country on May 12-14th. An individual NAPLAN report will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback to parents and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas.

ATTENDANCE

Thank you to those families that ensure their children attend school. Department of Education’s expectation is that each student attends school at least 92.2% of the time. We currently have an attendance rate of 89.45%.

Chinchilla Show - Public Holiday

Friday 22nd May 2015
Reading Strategies

Each newsletter we will try to introduce one of the reading strategies that students are learning in the classroom to help you assist them with their home reading.

This week we look at Skippy the Frog.

http://www.rhinelander.k12.wi.us/faculty/JohnsAmy/Skippy%20the%20Frog%20postcard%20pdf.pdf

Reading Eggs

A reminder to parents that the Reading Eggs program can be accessed by children from home.

Notes have been sent home to parents with log-in details.

We encourage parents and children to take advantage of this program.
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Term 2 Week 2**
Brandie: For demonstrating a mature attitude to school activities.
Chloe: For improving in maths problem solving tasks.
Riley: For writing a good response as part of his reading activities.
Tahlia: For writing a great letter as part of her reading activities.

**Term 2 Week 3**
Kael: For working really well in his health activities.
Kaleb: For working to the best of his ability.
Alyssa: For working well in her English activities.
Chloe: For excellent improvement in spelling.

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**Kogan State School P&C**

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 18th May 2015, at 3.40pm in the school library.
Everyone is welcome.

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**Tallebudgera Beach Camp Fees – Years 5 & 6**

2015 School Camp
14th - 18th September

For those who have not yet paid their 2nd instalment of $50 that was payable by the 31st March, can you please do so now.
The 3rd instalment of $100 is payable by the 23rd June 2015.
Wonder of Science

On 29th April, years 4-6 were visited by a group of scientists and who introduced them to the Wonder of Science program. The 4-6 students have been issued a challenge to determine whether duckweed, which is found in many of our creeks and dams, is a good indicator of water quality.

Students from this class will be asking parents to lend them a clean plastic bucket for their experiment and will need to bring about 5 litres of water from a home water source. This can be from the home tank, dam, bore, creek or other suitable supply.

One of the students has volunteered to supply duckweed from their creek where it is growing in abundance.

We are celebrating National Family Reading Month by participating in the Scholastic (Book club) challenge and National Simultaneous Storytime leading up to the commencement of the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Some students are voluntarily recording the number of minutes they read each day in May. The results will then be input to the Scholastic website so that these students have a chance to win a $250 voucher for Scholastic books.

On 27th May, at 11am, the whole school will have the opportunity to see (via computer) Aaron Blabey read his new book, The Brothers Quibble.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge opens on 19th May and runs until 28th August 2015.
Term 2 Week 2
Despite the rainy weather, Cody Ty, Matilda and Steele were pleased to receive their Sight Word awards. Well done people!

Term 2 Week 3
Lachlan, Mia, Matilda, Tahlia, Ty, Cody, Jordan, Alyssa and Steele were presented with sight word awards. Mia has completed the green level.
Keep up the hard work everyone!
Kogan State School
Cross Country 2015
Peer Skills Facilitator Training
Chinchilla

UnitingCare Community is pleased to offer facilitator training to schools and agencies wishing to implement the Peer Skills Program as part of their work with young people.

Peer Skills Facilitator (2-day) Training
Day 1: 15th September 2015 - 9am to 4.30 pm
Day 2: 18th September 2015 – 9am to 4.00pm

These two days are designed to train suitable workers and volunteers to facilitate the 2-day Peer Skills Workshop and set up and maintain a peer work support system in their current role.

Peer Skills Professional Development
Day 2: 18th September 2015

Existing facilitators and those supporting Peer Skills implementation are invited to the afternoon session of Day two to share their knowledge with new facilitators and assist in planning for the future.

WHERE
Chinchilla Family Support Centre
67 – 71 Middle Street

No Training Fee
The costs for the 2 day Training (and Day 2 Professional Development session) are covered through funds made available to UnitingCare Community’s Community Recovery Program through the Department of Communities. Lunch on Day 2 will be from 1.00pm-1.30pm.

The Training
Morning tea and lunch is provided on both days.
(Let us know if you have dietary requirements in your registration form)

A facilitator manual is provided at the training and access to the Peer Skills Members site is set up before the training.

Final details will be provided approximately a week prior to the training.

Registration Process
Please discuss the program information with your school or agency and if interested forward the completed Registration Form to:
peer.skills@uccomunity.org.au

Information
Information about the Peer Skills program is available on the Peer Skills section of the UnitingCare Community website
www.uccomunity.org.au/peer-skills

Please note: training places are limited to 16 participants.

When the completed Registration has been received, applicants will be contacted with confirmation of a place in the training and further information.

Peer Skills Mission Statement
The Peer Skills Mission is to “improve the wellbeing of young people by increasing skills that: support respectful engagement with each other, families and communities, build capacity to cope and empower young people to confidently and compassionately support others.”

Contact Details
Francesca Lejeune
Peer Skills
T | 07 3624 2430
MJ | 0439 870 117
Peer Skills Information

What is it all about?
In 2000, Lifeline Community Care (now Uniting Care Community) undertook carriage of the Peer Skills program developed by Kids Helpline. Uniting Care Community aims to offer training to suitable workers in your area to incorporate the delivery of the 2-day Peer Skills Workshop into their current work with young people.

The program includes innovative ways of working with young people that are fun and engaging. Using an experiential learning mode of delivery, the program is based on the philosophy of empowerment and is young person centred in its approach.

Why Peer Skills?
The program was developed as a response to the recognition through calls to Kids Helpline that young people often turn to their fellow students for support in difficult times, before they turn to parents, counsellors or school staff.

The workshop is designed to acknowledge and build on existing skills with ideas, knowledge and strategies for helping young people in their own lives and when they are supporting a peer.

Criteria for Facilitators?
UnitingCare Community is keen to hear from suitable workers in your area who meet the following criteria:

**Essential**
- Understanding of issues facing young people
- Experience in group facilitation
- Able to articulate understanding of young person centred practice
- Basic understanding of the counselling process
- Understanding of adolescent development

**Desirable**
- 2 years experience working with young people
- Experience as a group facilitator with young people
- Demonstrate empowering and young person centred practice
- Qualification in relevant discipline

We are keen to hear from interested workers, schools & agencies that would like to incorporate the Peer Skills program into the work they do with young people.

What do we cover in the Facilitator Training?
- Content and processes of the Peer Skills Workshop
- Child-centred practice and empowerment
- Effective peer work program implementation
- The roles and responsibilities of the Peer Skills facilitator
- Preparation and presentation of a Peer Skills activity and feedback
REGISTRATION FORM - PEER SKILLS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chinchilla Family Support Centre 67- 71 Middle Street, Chinchilla
Function Room
Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th September 2015

Please complete and Fax or Email the following pages to Peer Skills Administration

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Role

School/Organisation

Organisation Address

Postcode

Mobile

Phone (BH)

Fax

Email Address

Work Mobile

Dietary Requirements

Please forward Registration to

Peer Skills Administration

T | 07 3624 2439
M | 0439 870 117

Contact Details

Francesca Lejeune
Peer Skills

Phone | 07 3624 2457
Fax | 07 3250 4702
Email | peer.skills@uccommunity.org.au

Please let us know if you can attend by 1st September 2015

The costs of this professional development session are covered by the Department of Communities – Drought Relief initiative.

www.peerskills.com.au