MISSION AUSTRALIA’S 2015 YOUTH SURVEY

Mission Australia is conducting a research project, the Youth Survey 2015, which aims to identify both the values and issues of concern to young people. The Youth Survey is an annual survey now in its 14th year. In 2015 the survey is available online and seeks to obtain socio-demographic information and investigate some of the social inclusion/exclusion dimensions from the perspective of young people.

We would like to invite your child to participate in the survey, which in 2015 is seeking young people aged 15 to 19 years across Australia to participate. Participating in the 2015 Youth Survey would involve your child spending 15 minutes completing an online survey at school during an extended House Group lesson. Participation is voluntary and your decision will be respected. Your decision will not affect your family’s relationship with the school.

The information gathered will be used to produce a report that is distributed widely each year. Results assist with the development of programs and services that meet the needs of young people, are a key resource for policy makers in the youth space, and are a valuable resource for young people, their families and those who support them, including schools and communities. The school is also able to receive a specific report that outlines key areas affecting youth at KSHS. The Kirwan State High School Wellbeing Department would like to use this survey data to inform decisions about future support programs offered at the school and determine the areas most in need of further assistance. The survey results will also be used to develop and plan activities and programs for the remainder of the school year.

The privacy and confidentiality of participants is assured. No identifiable information is collected and the data is stored securely on a password-protected network drive at Mission Australia, accessible only to the Research and Social Policy team. Data is aggregated and no analysis is undertaken at the individual level.

The survey has undergone an appropriate ethical review process and the QLD Department of Education and Training has approved Mission Australia to approach Principals about the survey. There is no contact between researchers and participants or parents.

A letter outlining all of these details will be emailed to you along with conditions and a request for exemption form. If you do not wish your child to participate in this survey could you please complete and sign the exemption form attached to the email and get your child to return it to the student counter by the 30th July 2015.

If you have any further questions please contact Kate Hennelly at khenn36@eq.edu.au, or see the Mission Australia website www.missionaustralia.com.au/youthsurvey, where results from previous years are also available.

SUBJECT INFORMATION NIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>11th August</td>
<td>Year 6 into 7</td>
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<td>12th August</td>
<td>Year 7 into 8</td>
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<td>Year 8 into 9</td>
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<td>18th August</td>
<td>Year 9 into 10</td>
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<td>19th August</td>
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- 04/08/15 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 11/08/15 Parents and Citizens’ Association meeting
Kirwan State High School's top mathematics students will be participating in a number of activities this term, including the '2015 Australian Mathematics Competition' on Thursday 30th July, the Year 7/8 Mathematics Quiz on August 4, the Year 10 Maths Camp and the QUT Vice-Chancellors STEM camp.

The Australian Mathematics Competition has been run every year since 1978. The competition consists of 25 multiple choice questions and 5 problems requiring a number answer. The questions are very easy at the start but become progressively more difficult. All students who participate will receive a certificate and a detailed report showing how they performed. Kirwan State High School students have in previous years achieved a number of High Distinction and Distinction awards and we hope that once again there may be Kirwan students amongst these high performing students in 2015.

Individual classes and students are practising for this competition by going over questions from previous years. A few problems from last year’s competition are included to give you an idea of the type of questions that students will experience in this competition.

Sample Questions from the 2014 competition (no calculators are allowed in this competition)

Q1. \[1 + 2 - 3 - 4 + 5 + 6 - 7 - 8 + 9 + 10 =\]
   (A) 0  (B) 1  (C) 10  (D) 11  (E) 19

Q2. This week at my lemonade stand I sold $29 worth of lemonade, but I had spent $34 on lemons and $14 on sugar. My total loss for the week was
   (A) $1  (B) $9  (C) $19  (D) $21  (E) $29

Q3. Forty-eight pavers, each 1m x 1m in size, are used to form a path 1m wide around a square garden. What is the area, in square metres, inside this path?
   (A) 100  (B) 110  (C) 121  (D) 132  (E) 144

Q4. The shape shown is formed from four identical arcs, each with a quarter of the circumference of a circle of radius 5cm. What is the area of the shape, in square centimetres.
   (A) 100 - 2p  (B) 100 p  (C) 25 + 25p  (D) 25p  (E) 100 - 25p

(The look for the answers at the end of this newsletter.)

The Year 7/8 Maths Quiz, to be held in Kirwan High’s Performing Arts building on Tuesday afternoon August 4th, has year 7 and 8 students from all Townsville schools competing against each other, in teams of 3, over 5 sessions. Each session is of a different format requiring students to answer mathematical questions involving basic number operations, estimation, problem solving, mathematical history and general maths knowledge. The winning teams compete against school teams from around North Queensland and then against school from all parts of Queensland at the State final in Brisbane in September. The Kirwan team will be determined over the next two weeks and we wish them luck as they tackle the questions in their bid to become the Townsville and Queensland Champions.

The Queensland Association of Mathematics Teachers (Townsville branch) have for the past 25 years, provided the opportunity for talented year 10 maths students to experience maths in a different environment through the Year 10 Maths Camp. This is to be held at Magnetic Island in early August and the four Kirwan year 10 students who have been invited to attend will have the chance to listen to and talk with practicing mathematicians, discuss construction with engineers and interact with students from other schools who also have an interest and ability in mathematics, providing a good support network for these students. I am sure that these students (Emily van Gorp, Vanessa Hartnett, Kayla Singleton and Emma Nolan) will thoroughly enjoy themselves and return to school enthused to continue their mathematical studies.

The QUT Vice-Chancellors STEM camp is a fully funded week long university residential experience provided to top performing year 11 students around the state each year. Only 80 students from all over Queensland are selected to attend and Kirwan has three students who were successful with their applications – Rhys Jenkins, Tim Salcole and Jack Camp. These students will experience life as university students by participating in a project in small groups of 4-5 students led by a lecturer or a graduate student in one of the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics. Congratulations to these boys on being selected.

Opportunities such as these are available to students every year and provide one incentive for students to continue putting in the effort, completing practice and to challenge themselves to always strive for success and to persist when the problems become difficult.

Mr. Nigel Martin – HOD Mathematics. (nmart40@eq.edu.au)
R U OK? CONVERSATIONS THAT CHANGE LIVES

On the 18th June 2015, a group of Year 11 Business students planned and conducted an “R U OK? Awareness Fundraiser” in the school Quadrangle with the assistance of Les Walker, our local Councillor. The purpose, was not only to raise money, but to also raise awareness for an issue that effects so many adolescents – their mental health and overall wellbeing. Les, an ambassador for the R U OK? Foundation, provided an in-depth and informative presentation about the importance of asking R U OK? a few weeks prior to the fundraiser. One of the great things about asking “are you ok?” is you don’t have to know the answers to a mate’s problems. Nor do you have to be “ok” yourself. As long as you can listen, not judge and just talk through things that you have found useful in the past, that is everything it takes to have a meaningful conversation to support a mate in need” (R U OK? Website).

Delightfully, the Business class raised a significant amount of money to donate to the R U OK? Foundation, for further research into mental illness prevention. Macs Amusements & Prestige Costume Hire assisted students to extend awareness throughout the school with a gingerbread man and M&M costume, free of charge. As a result of the display of excellence, Lindy Hodgson, the Community and Corporate Engagement Manager for the R U OK? Ltd, has contacted Kirwan High to launch a conversation corner campaign. This involves installing a “conversation bench” that is intended to spark conversation about current adolescent issues and will allow the Kirwan community an opportunity to ask R U OK?

“Konnichi wa” to Kokugakuin High School from Japan!

We certainly have had an influx of international students since the start of the term! And there are more to come! From 25th July to 5th August 2015 we will be hosting 20 students from Kokugakuin High School from Tokyo, Japan.

These students will be receiving English lessons. They will be demonstrating to our students learning Japanese in Years 8, 9, 10 11 and 12 their culture as well. This will include Japanese calligraphy, origami, etc. They will also be integrating with our regular classes, as well as experiencing activities such as Bush dancing, making Aussie pavlovas, boomerang and spear throwing! What wonderful memories they will have of Kirwan, even though they are only with us for 12 days!

So when you see them next week, please say Konnichi wa (hello) and ask them about their country, their school etc. Please remember to speak slowly and don’t use Aussie slang! English is their second language and they are still learning how to speak it.

Some Japanese phrases you can use:
Sayonara – goodbye
Domo arigato gozaimasu – thankyou very much
O genki desu ka? – How are you?
Yoroshiku onegaishimasu – Pleased to meet you
Early School Leavers survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 during 2014. The Early School Leavers survey is a short, confidential survey that collects information about what young people are doing the year after leaving school. The information from the survey helps our schools to understand the pathways young people follow after leaving school and to plan services to support transitions into study or employment for our students.

Between July and August, our students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 last year can expect to receive an invitation to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage early school leavers to take part.

For more information, visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

KIRWAN HIGH FEATURES IN QUEENSLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

On Thursday 16th and Friday 17th of July 2015, the Kirwan High Arts Centre of Excellence was on show as part of the Queensland Music Festival’s performance of 101 Years. This professionally produced concert was staged at the Jezzine Barracks, Kissing Point and was attended by a 2000 strong crowd each night.

Developed in conjunction with the State Library of Queensland, the concept for the script came from the letters and stories written by diggers from the trenches of World War 1. The narrative was both informative as well as highly moving, and expertly presented by students, Reanna Jones, Hannah Royle, Stephanie Mee, Taylor Andrews, Garrison Dee, Sam O’Dwyer, Jackson Arthy and Gabe Williams. These students captured the emotion of each individual letter and each character they presented perfectly, earning a great deal of praise from director, Dan Evans.

To accompany the stories of the diggers, three separate bands were employed to provide the soundtrack for the concert. These included the world’s only professional wind philharmonic orchestra – The Saxons. This band flew in to Australia from Germany especially for this concert and gave their premiere Australian performance in Townsville as a part of this production. Also featured were the Townsville based 1RAR band and a Brass band made up of all Townsville locals who were auditioned and selected for the band specifically for this event. Both current and past Kirwan High students were featured in the community brass band along side some current staff – Rhys Jenkins on Tuba, Courtney Searston on Tenor Horn, Brett Northeast on Trombone, Zac Limmer on Solo Cornet, Mr Ashley Baxter on Percussion and Mr Dale Hosking on Soprano Cornet. Past student Zac Parkes also featured as a member of the lead vocal cast. He performed the opening of the show as a digger reflecting on the war before being joined by professional artists Naomi Price and Ben Mingay.

This event was a huge undertaking for all involved and an amazing opportunity for the Arts students of Kirwan High. To work so closely with professional artists, producers and directors in a most memorable and poignant piece of performance art will surely remain as a highlight in their time at Kirwan High.

NAISDA AUDITION APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON 7 AUGUST 2015 - DON'T DELAY!
NAISDA is a rich place of learning, performing arts and culture creating fantastic career pathways and opportunities for all NAISDA graduates as they continue to play key roles both onstage and off at companies and productions around Australia.

NAISDA is looking for Tomorrow’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Artists Today and will be auditioning for Developing Artists from 21-25 September 2015 to commence study in 2016.

Abstudy can assist eligible participants with their travel and accommodation costs. Applications close on 7 August 2015.

For more information, download the NAISDA Audition pack at www.naisda.com.au (click on Learning and then Audition for NAISDA) or phone 1800 117 116. If you require further information about studying at NAISDA, please download our Developing Artist (DA) Handbook from the NAISDA website.

Many thanks
Sheree Foley
Communications and Events Coordinator
P. (02) 4340 3111 F. (02) 2 4340 3160 | FREECALL 1800 117 116
s.foley@naisda.com.au

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For more information, visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.
DEFENCE NEWS
Hello to all students, parents and carers. It is wonderful to return to Kirwan State High in my role of DTM. I have been on maternity leave for 12 months and it has flown by.

Upon my return, I have been swamped with questions on programs and activities. Yes, I will be starting them up again. On the drawing board are:

- Deployment program
- Posting out / Moving schools Program
- Get to know your Defence Transition Mentor meetings
- School Camp in Term 4
- Rollercoaster

Please let me know if you are posting out at the end of the year, or if you have a parent deployed. This is very important so I can assist you and support you through this change.

If parents or carers would like to have a catch up meeting, please contact me on 4773 8143. You can find me in FY02 in the First Year Centre

I am looking forward to meeting up with everyone again and offering support where ever I can.

Kind regards
Lisa Hill
Defence Transition Mentor

HEALTH MATTERS
Tips for parents
How to tell when your kids need help.

Sometimes things just start to pile up and get on top of us, so it is important that we are able to recognise the signs that our kids may need some extra support. If a teenager’s behaviour suddenly changes it is important that you seek advice, especially if they show some of the following signs-

- Their school work gets worse suddenly.
- They don’t seem to cope with problems and day to day activities.
- They begin having problems eating or sleeping.
- They complain of lots of physical problems.
- They become aggressive and start getting into trouble like wagging school, detentions, maybe even stealing/vandalism.
- They become worried about their weight without actually being overweight.
- They become depressed and are negative for a length of time.
- They begin to use drugs or alcohol.

If you are concerned in any way there are plenty of people to talk to at the school:

- School Health Nurse
- House Masters.
- Guidance officers
- Your teenager’s teacher
- Support staff at school

You can also contact the local child health service for information and advice.

Staying healthy
Debbie
School Based Youth Health Nurse
WEP Student Exchange – Learn and Discover the World!
WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the Education Departments in NSW, Queensland and Victoria. Applications for short and long-term programs commencing from November 2015 onward are open now. Students can choose from over 25 countries to live with a volunteer WEP host family and attend an overseas high school for a summer, semester or year. To request program information for your family, visit www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733.

We look forward to hearing from students interested in this wonderful experience. If you have any questions about our programs or would like to request brochures for your school, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Judith Ortmann
World Education Program Australia Limited
PO Box 260, Black Rock Vic 3193 OR
479 Hampton Street, Hampton Melbourne
Vic 3188
Phone: +61 (0) 3 9598 4733 In Australia only: 1300 88 4733
Fax: +61 3 9598 4233

ST LEO’S COLLEGE—UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
St Leo’s is the Catholic Men’s Residential College set within the grounds of the University of Queensland, providing accommodation in 2015 for 207 young men who come from rural/regional Queensland and northern NSW. Enrolments for 2016 are now open.

Mr Mark Thornton will be visiting Kirwan High on Friday 24th July at 9.30 a.m. to meet with any Year 12 boys considering University Queensland and other Brisbane universities as an option in 2016/2017. Subsequently, if those boys decide to enroll at St Leo’s, the meeting with Mr Thornton will count as the enrolment interview.

St Leo’s College provides for individual living within a Catholic academic community and offers studies ranging from Medicine, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Science and Engineering to Music, Arts, Law, Education and Business/Economics. St Leo’s competes in cultural activities and sporting competitions, and is a college of both the creative and performing arts.

Any students who are interested in finding out more information about St Leo’s should meet in the Guidance Office area at 9.30 a.m. on Friday 24th July.

Woolworths earn & learn
Kirwan State High School has signed up for the Woolworths earn & learn promotion and the Parents and Citizens is very keen to support this venture. The resources we can choose are fantastic.

Please collect your stickers when you purchase from Woolworths and when your sheet is full, you can drop it off to the school foyer in administration or the following stores listed below.

We currently have 1 Earn and Learn box at Woolworths Parkside. We will be having 3 more boxes delivered next week and they will be placed at Woolworths The Avenues, Woolworths Willows and Woolworths Rasmussen.
**SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Term 3**
- 21-23/07/15 James Cook University Visits—Years 7 and 8
- 23-25/07/15 Townsville to Cairns Bike Ride—VET students catering
- 25/07/15 Open Bears Rugby League APC Final
- 25/07-05/08/15 Kokugakuin Study Tour
- 27-31/07/15 NAIDOC Week Celebrations at School
- 29/07/15 ICAS Test English Years 7, 8 and 9
- 29-30/07/15 Challenge Games—Special Education Program
- 29/07/15 Dance Night Rehearsal—Performing Arts Centre—3.30pm—5.30pm
- 30/07/15 Australian Mathematics Competition
- 31/07/15 Open Bears Rugby League GIO Cup North Queensland Semi-finals
- 31/07/15 Dance Night—Performing Arts Centre—7.00pm
- 04/08/15 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 04/08/15 Year 12 Science 21 Excursion
- 05/08/15 Open Rugby League GIO Cup National Finals (TBC)
- 11/08/15 Pupil Free Day
- 19/10/15 Arts Expo
- 15/11/15 Year 11 Certificate III Business excursion to James Cook University as part of Year 11’s James Cook University Pathways Program

**Term 4**
- 06/10/15 Term 4 commences
- 07-11/10/15 Queensland All Schools Touch Event
- 19/10/15 Pupil Free Day
- 20/10/15 Sports Awards Night
- 21/10/15 Vocational Education Awards
- 23/10/15 International Mole Day
- 25/10/15 Education Week
- 26-30/10/15 Try Time visit
- 04/11/15 Year 10, 11 and 12 Graduation and Awards Night
- 06/11/15 Rugby League Presentation Night and Bears Reunion
- 11/11/15 Remembrance Day
- 11/11/15 Special Education Awards Night
- 13/11/15 Year 12 Formal
- 23/11/15 Year 11 QCS Workshop
- 23-25/11/15 International Student Cultural Program (Showcasing Australian culture)
- 23-27/11/15 Year 10 Work Experience
- 24/11/15 Year 10 Mini QCS Practice Test
- 24-25/11/15 Year 11 QCS Practice Test
- 25/11/15 Year 11 Certificate III Business excursion to James Cook University as part of Year 11’s James Cook University Pathways Program

**YEAR 10/11 COMPLETION DATE**
For 2015 - 27 November

**YEARS 7, 8 and 9 COMPLETION DATE**
For 2015 - 11 December

**MENTAL HEALTH WEEK**
During Week 3 (27th-31st July), Kirwan High will promote Mental Health awareness amongst students and staff with Mental Health Week. The focus will be on developing students and staff understanding of the link between physical health and mental health. The program includes activities such as Mindfulness, Yoga, Youth Mental Health Expo, a healthy food presentation and many other engaging activities.

**PARENTS AND CITIZEN’S ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**
- Tuesday 11th August 2015
- Tuesday 8th September 2015
- Tuesday 13th October 2015
- Tuesday 10th November 2015

Meetings at 7pm in the school library
All Welcome

**Design a mascot for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games**
Get your pens and pencils ready, it’s time to create history! The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) Mascot Design Competition is now open to all ages, and there are some great prizes to be won. The nationwide competition asks you to design a uniquely Australian mascot to help promote the Games and to play an important role in key GC2018 programs and events. Draw your mascot, give it a name, write its background story, and enter this once in a lifetime competition before entries close, 27 July. Please control click on the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) Mascot Design Competition link to find out more information.