Dear Parents and Carers

As the end of term draws near, we look forward to the many opportunities we will have to share our ‘Loganholme Spirit’ with the community. The excitement in our students increases every day as they prepare for end of year celebrations and school events.

**Touch Football Teachers V Year 6/7 students**

Tomorrow afternoon we will be having our annual touch football match between teachers and Year 6/7 students. There will be many excited students and as equally enthusiastic teachers taking to the field for this eagerly anticipated event. The game is always played with great enthusiasm displayed from both teams with some very talented players demonstrating their touch football prowess. Our families are invited to come and watch the match tomorrow afternoon at 1.30pm on the school oval.

**Christmas Carols’ Night**

The Carols’ night this year is to be held on Friday 5 December commencing at 5pm with the BBQ. The P&C team and their wonderful volunteers have been working extremely hard to organise the food, and entertainment organised for this annual event. Students have been busy practising their Christmas Carols and are keen to perform. Each year we have more and more families attend. There is always a great atmosphere on the night and we hope that this year will be no different. We look forward to seeing you on the night. A flyer will go home shortly with more details of the night.

**Report Cards**

Report cards will be sent home with the children on Wednesday 10 December. The report cards are given to your child in a sealed envelope. More information on end of year reports will be provided in next week’s newsletter.

**Great Results Guarantee 2014 Funding**

In February, Loganholme State School received $131,066 in Great Results Guarantee (GRG) funding to improve student outcomes. As a school we submitted the following strategies to improve student outcomes:

- Providing professional development (internal and external) to all teachers and teacher-aides on the Big 6 in Reading.
- Purchasing TRS to release teachers for Coaching Conversations.
- Developing capacity of all teacher-aides to enhance learning in intensive reading support.
From the Leadership Team

- Purchasing TRS to release Prep Teacher/s to establish networks with feeder Pre-Prep Providers.
- Purchasing additional resources to compliment initiatives.
- Teachers to visit “like schools” performing at higher level in Melbourne.

As a school we implement targeted, evidence-based strategies to improve student performance in Literacy and Numeracy:
- Employed additional teacher aides to provide intensive levelled literacy intervention to our students in Years 1, 2 and 3.
- Employed a Specialist Math Teacher to support extension students in Years 4 and 5.
- Employed a specialist Reading Recovery teacher
- Additional Learning Support in Prep/Year 1.
- Implemented a remedial Speech Language Therapy program for Prep students requiring support in Oral Language.
- Professional Development for aspiring leaders to develop leadership, coaching skills, pedagogy and data analysis.
- Professional Development (internal and external providers) for teachers and teacher aides in effective pedagogical practices in Literacy.
- Released Prep Teachers to visit and host visits with Pre-Prep providers to build stronger partnerships and have shared understandings around skill and routine expectations of students entering Prep.

We have been very fortunate to receive this extra funding in 2014 and look forward to the many strategies we can implement in 2015 with this GRG initiative.

2015 Student Leaders

This week we will be shortlisting our candidates for our Student Leaders for 2015. Eight students have been shortlisted for four positions. These students will present a speech to the assembly on Monday 1 December before going through the voting process on Thursday 4 December for final selection. Selected students will be presented with badges at the Leader Induction Ceremony to be held early in 2015.

Christmas Stall

Our annual Christmas stall is happening again – it will be held on Wednesday 3 December and Thursday 4 December. The P&C has gifts for all members of the family. If you would like to volunteer and help us for this event please drop the P&C an email with your name and contact details.

Canvases

During the Carols’ night, each canvas will be auctioned once again. Canvases will be on display before the night for families to see the wonderful work of art that each class has made.

The theme for this year’s canvas is, ‘Tropical’. It is wonderful to see the amazing work that students have put into their classes’ art work. It is important to note that anyone who bids on the canvases MUST pay for the canvas on the night. If the canvas is not paid for on the night, the next highest bidder will have the opportunity to buy the canvas.

Little Kingfisher’s Christmas Party

The last day for our Little Kingfisher Play Group will be on Monday. For those families who have attended Play Group this year, we would like to invite you to our end of year Christmas Party. Please bring a plate of food and join us for many wonderful indoor and outdoor activities. Details of the event are as follows:

Playgroup Christmas Party

When: Monday 1 December
Time: 8:30am – 10:30am
Where: Little Kingfishers
From the Leadership Team

Behaviour Rewards Day Term 4

The final Behaviour Rewards’ Day for this year will be held on Wednesday 3 December of week 9. As part of this day, students will participate in some ‘wet activities’ using Super Soaker water pistols for a Laser Force inspired game and run through sprinklers in a dodge ball style game. A parental permission note will be sent home on Monday to those students who will be involved in this privilege outlining the details of this day. We congratulate all students who have worked hard this term to be the five students who have moved the most levels on the Believe & Achieve thermometer for Term 4.

Swimming Carnival

Our annual swimming carnival/fun day will take place on Monday 8 December during the last week of the school year for students in Year 4-7 who are in the green zone or above on the Believe & Achieve thermometer. The permission form, medical form and payment of $5.50 should have now been handed into the office. Another note will be sent home shortly with final details.

Prep Assembly

Shortly, invitations will go home to our Prep families to invite them to attend our 2014 Prep assembly. This is a special time to reflect on our students’ first year at “big school” and celebrate the milestones they have achieved over the school year. We hope that we have as many Prep families attend as possible.

Prep Assembly 2014

When: Monday 8 December
Time: 8:45am
Where: Kingfisher Hall

Year 6/7 Graduation

On Tuesday 9 December of Week 10, our senior students will participate in their Year 6/7 graduation. There will be two ceremonies, one in the morning and one in the evening. The morning graduation will take place from 9:00am-10:00am at a whole school assembly where all community members are invited to attend to celebrate this important milestone for every student. The presentation of graduation certificates will take place at this assembly. We hope that as many families as possible, can attend this event.

On the evening of Tuesday 9 December, students will enjoy the night ceremony which includes their formal graduation and presentation of prize winners, professional photographer, meal, dance and their graduation song. This ceremony will be by invitation only. Please note that the number of tickers required and the payment for these tickets must be made to the office no later than Monday 1 December. Any tickets not paid for will then be reallocated to families requesting additional tickets.

Final School Assembly

Another significant event on our calendar at this time of the year is our “End of Year Assembly”. This is to be held at 8.45am on Wednesday 10 December in Kingfisher Hall. All family members are welcome to attend this event as we share success stories from each of our classrooms as well as a few exciting performances.

The awards that will be presented on this assembly are the following:

- **Academic Award** – Highest academic achiever
- **Citizenship Award** – A role model student who is friendly, helpful and giving to the school community
- **Behaviour Award** – Outstanding behaviour across the year and someone who consistently follows the school rules without reminders
- **Improvement** – The student who has improved the most in the areas of: academic, citizenship and behaviour.
From the Leadership Team

Class Lists 2015

Many parents have been enquiring as to when they are able to find out what classes their children will be in for 2015. As stated in previous newsletters, we are finalising class lists which takes some time to ensure each class is balanced according to the individual needs of each student. Class lists are reviewed and thoroughly scrutinised before they are published. Parent requests for considerations have been looked at prior to finalising these lists.

This year we have scheduled another ‘Shuffle Up’ afternoon. This is designed so students can be informed and meet their class teacher for 2015. We find this helps to put students’ minds at ease to so they are able to enjoy their school holidays. Students will also be taken to their new classroom to ensure they know exactly where to go on the first day of school.

This year our shuffle up afternoon has been scheduled for Wednesday, 10 December from 1:30-2:30pm. Please do not contact the office prior to this date requesting this information.

Families who have a Prep student commencing in 2015, can also be informed from this date onwards the class that their child/ren will be in and their class teacher’s name. You can request this information by contacting the school office by phone or sending an email to Miss Ruth Hester on rhest1@eq.edu.au and we will be more than happy to let you know.

We will also have the class lists made available the week prior to school starting as well as on the first day of school which will be Tuesday 27 January.

Smart Devices and Your Child

We strongly discourage your child bringing a camera enabled or internet enabled device to school. The exception is when asked specifically by a teacher as part of the study program. If your child does bring a phone, iPod, iPad etc to school they are to leave it at the office on arrival to school and collect it again after 3:00pm. Students not following this process run the risk of serious consequences that may include suspension. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCE is a child permitted to take photos at school and/or post them to social media such as instagram or Facebook. The following is reprinted from the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students:

A student at school who uses a personal technology device to record private conversations, ordinary school activities (apart from social functions like graduation ceremonies) or violent, illegal or embarrassing matter capable of bringing the school into public disrepute is considered to be in breach of this policy. Even where consent is obtained for such recording, the school will not tolerate images or sound captured by personal technology devices on the school premises or elsewhere being disseminated to others, if it is done for the purpose of causing embarrassment to individuals or the school, for the purpose of bullying or harassment, including racial and sexual harassment, or where without such intent a reasonable person would conclude that such outcomes may have or will occur.

Students involved in:
✔ recording; and/or
✔ disseminating material (through text messaging, display, internet uploading etc); and/or,
✔ knowingly being a subject of a recording

Breach of this policy may be subject to discipline (including suspension and recommendation for exclusion).

Parent Tips - Ending the School year on a strong, positive note

Some students find this time of year particularly challenging and, as a consequence, levels of anxiety and behaviour problems may arise or resurface. Teachers must dig deep in their little bag of tricks to keep students engaged until the last bell rings, and parents do, too. The following tips will help get your child through the home stretch.

Stick to routine:

Try not to abandon the routines and structures you’ve relied on all year. Now that it’s light outside later, the kids may want you to move back bedtime, but they still need to be tucked in at a reasonable hour. Regular routines, including healthy snacks and lunches, also help kids cope with the excitement of movie days, and other end-of-school celebrations.
From the Leadership Team

and activities. It helps to reinforce that although things may be a little more free-form at school, your expectations and the teacher’s expectations for behaviour are still the same.

**Support and work with the school on addressing behaviour concerns:**

😊 Try not to take it as a criticism of you, when you are told that your child is misbehaving. Try to be calm and cooperative rather than angry.

😊 Avoid challenging school rules in front of your child. If your child thinks that you do not respect school policies and rules then he/she may feel that it is okay for her not to either. If you strongly disagree with any of the rules, discuss this with the school principal.

😊 Try not to overreact or jump to conclusions. Gather as much information as you can about what actually happened and try to see things from both your child’s and the school’s point of view – remember, children sometimes leave bits out and bend the truth because they want to avoid getting into trouble.

😊 Let the school know if there have been any recent changes or problems for your child outside of school, as this may explain your child’s behaviour.

**Take it outside:**
Research shows that spending more time outdoors improves children’s concentration in school, lessens aggression and improves their ability to cooperate. Try moving homework outside whenever possible—your kids will enjoy the novelty and be less likely to complain.

**Plan ahead:**
Get a head start on preparing your child to make the transition from one grade to another. If they’re struggling at school, schedule a meeting with the teacher and get some suggestions on enriching summer activities to help him/her improve her skills. If you’re planning a trip, pick up a few books about the places you’ll be visiting.

**Acknowledge progress:**
Encourage your child to reflect back on his/her school year and think about what he/she’s learned, what was challenging, how he/she dealt with it and what he/she’s proud of. As the kids count down, start planning something special to mark the last day of class.

**Tuckshop – Cupcake Day**

Thank you so much to Leanne and her volunteers Katie, Rebecca, Cherie, Deb and Vanessa for their hard work in our Tuckshop for making and icing 600 Cupcakes for our cupcake day last week.

**Student of the Week**

Congratulations to the following students who were nominated as the Student of the Week for Week 8 this term.

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Kind regards
The Leadership Team
From the Leadership Team

*Please note there is a change of day for School Banking*

*The new day is TUESDAYS*

*Bank books are to be brought to school on Tuesdays.*