Dear Parents,

This year we will be integrating STEMS into our technology/science units, incorporating the aforementioned key learning area as well as coding and robotics.

What is STEM?

Today's students are tomorrows leaders in a world where 75% of all jobs will require STEM literacy and skills. The acronym STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. STEM refers to an approach to teaching and learning that is cross disciplinary and inquiry based. STEM focuses on the skills of critical thinking, researching, problem solving, analytical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity. By investigating real world issues and challenges that are around them, students develop knowledge and skills that will prepare them for the workforce. They also build capacity and confidence to be informed consumers and to confidently make complex decisions that impact their lives.

Why is STEM important?

STEM is a global enterprise. In a rapidly changing world that is driven by innovation we need to prepare young Queenslanders for success in a global economy. The Chief Scientist in the Occasional Paper STEM Skills in the Workforce; What Do Employer's Want? reported that the top 4 skills that employers were seeking in potential employees were Complex Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Creative Problem Solving and Analytical Capabilities, all of which are skills engaged through STEM education.

(STEM HUB NCR)

Over the year Mia and myself will plan and create a Kin Kin State School STEM program which will create opportunities for our students STEM capabilities such as:
• deep knowledge of a subject
• creativity
• problem solving
• critical/creative thinking
• communication skills

We will keep you posted.

Deb Webb and Mia Hacker

STEM is everywhere. Our nourishment, our safety, our homes and neighbours, our relationships with family and friends, our health our jobs, our leisure are all profoundly shaped by technological innovation and the discoveries of science.’

Professor Ian Chubb, 2013.
General News

Last Thursday the Year 4/5/6 were very lucky to have an “Olympics Unleashed” visit with Cedric Dubler (Decathlon) who inspired our students to unleash their potential and encourage them to pursue their passion whether that be in sport, the classroom or community. All enjoyed his visit and were motivated to unleash their own potential. Cedric has supplied us with a new Olympic Spirit Awards which we have decided to present every week on parade to a student (or two).

This week it was awarded to Art and Finlay for demonstrating the Olympic spirit of friendship, respect and striving to be their ‘best self’.

Congratulations to Art and Finlay.

How to encourage children to write at home

• Encourage children to write, write, write! Provide many opportunities such as writing the shopping list, sending letters and cards to friends and relations, writing emails, keeping a diary, publishing personal stories, labelling photos in the family album, and leaving notes. Locating writing apps such as Book Creator. Writing should be relevant and meaningful rather than writing for the sake of writing.

• Give children opportunities to read their stories aloud (while you sit back and listen). Listen with a focus on the message they express. Comment on what they have done well, for example: ‘I enjoyed how you used interesting words such as X, Y, Z.’ ‘The character you created seems so real. I can imagine how he looks.’ Leave comments about spelling, punctuation, and grammar to another time — they are important if and when it is to be published.

• Draw children’s attention to how writing is presented, for example, on brochures, billboards, books, and electronic media — these are models of writing for real purposes.

• Create a community of writers. Provide a quiet place for writing with lots of writing materials. Leave notes for each other, write poems for your children, and send messages in lunch containers. Play writing games, for example, one person writes the beginning, another the middle and the other the end of a family story. Write together.

After ‘Oma’ seemed to be hanging around and there were other threats of extreme weather events across the nation, be sure to check into the Noosa Shire Council local Disaster Dashboard that contains up-to-date relevant information for all infrastructure aspects impacted from a disaster incident. It is a ‘quick link’ on their website or follow this link -


Deb Webb
Kin Kin State School and Playgroup occurs every Thursday morning from 9-10.30am at the Kafe’ Garden area behind the school.

All families and children are welcome to attend and participate in the variety of activities on offer.

Please follow our Facebook page to keep up to date with what’s happening week to week. This is a great introduction for children to the school environment and also a chance to meet others.

Tea and coffee is provided and mums and dads can catch up whilst the children have a play. If you have any questions please call the school on 07 5485 4168.

Gold coin donation. Come along and have some fun!

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE QSCHOOLS APP YET?

The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from and about schools. The app is designed to integrate with school websites, and allows users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to their selected school website.

The school community can also receive push notifications and emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app. The QSchools app will be particularly useful to parents who have students in different schools, as the app manages updates from multiple schools in a single view.

Find out more about QSchools and download the app today.
The Prep/Yr 1 Class have been investigating how to roll an object. This inquiry lead us to test out both natural sliding with gravity helping and then adding in a push with our hands to make the marbles move over and through the paint. The tracks made changes in thickness with different amounts of pushing or sliding. The 2,3,4 Class used an inquiry approach to explore learning about using forces to make things move.

Some students designed tracks for Bee bot racing. We used different sized balls with different properties to run tests and then we graphed the data collected. The 2,3,4 classes had fun starting their inquiry focused learning in STEM session this week. We re-used some donated red cardboard sheets to make a path or track that the Bee bots could be programmed for. The students worked in small groups and after analysing each group’s designs they could make changes or additions to their original designs. Left and right turns were actually counted as a programmed step even though the Bee bot doesn’t move forward or back. 34 steps was the highest amount of programmable steps. All groups used their inquiry skills differently. A great start to thinking about our individual thinking processes too.

The year 5/6 class were very focused with lots of inquiry learning. Very good small group with lots rethinking and designing to make a complete circuit. They got fans rotating and cars moving forward, some light bulbs turning on and some detailed research found on complete circuits within lots of devices. Some neatly labelled diagrams started our inquiry thinking this morning too. The Yr5/6 Class have explored more ways to make or change or redesign circuits. The fan went around and also went up up and away! That light bulb moment where the whole group feels success happened, the bulb turned on when the circuit became closed!
In Kin Kin... this Sunday at 9am. Meet at the tennis courts. Free bacon & egg burgers for all helpers! Hope to see you all there.
Congratulations to our

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Felix for being an Informed Citizen for active listening in class.

Charlotte for being a Democratic Citizen for demonstrating good behaviour to the Prep students.

Liam for being a Co-operative Citizen for quickly adapting to his new learning environment in the best interest of self and others.

Jessica for being a Co-operative Citizen by helping new students become familiar with class expectations in learning and behaviour.

Felicity for being a Co-operative Citizen by always considering others and place in the best interest of all.

Gracie for being a Democratic Citizen by leading by example both in the playground and in the classroom.

Amber for being an Informed Citizen by being a conscientious learner who will ask for assistance for better understanding.

Henry for being an Informed Citizen for making huge class achievements with his school work.
**Headlice still around!**— Headlice is still around. Parents please be vigilant in checking your child’s hair and if required, treat accordingly. Thank you for your consistent commitment to this.

**School photos**— School photos will be held on Monday, 1st April. They usually are earlier in the year, but we are waiting for the Year 6 shirts to arrive. We would appreciate if you could make sure that your child/ren are here at 8.50am so that the morning runs smoothly. Please ensure that your child is neat and presentable for their photo. Thank you.

**Clean up Australia Day**— This Friday, 1st March, our school will participate in “Clean up Day”. After parade, the students (and parents who are here) do a general clean up of the school area. We discuss what rubbish, if any, we find. It is always a good chance to see what is NOT getting into our bins, or what is getting blown away.

**Harmony Day**— The 20th March is Harmony Day while March 21st is Indigenous Health -Closing the Gap Day. International Harmony Day raises awareness of the importance of respecting each other so we can all live in peace. Closing the Gap Day is officially recognised to raise awareness of differences between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous health. Our school celebrates these two very important days of significance as one. This occasion will take place on Wednesday, 20th March. The school conducts a rotation of activities to recognise these important aspects of our society and to show respect for both of these important events. Please wear ORANGE to celebrate the day. In the past, we have worn blue, but orange is the international colour for this day.

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**Comment of the day from one of the students....HE HAS SO MANY SHOES!!!**

*Here they all are, lined up.*

*Thank you Cedric for visiting our school!*
Sri Lankan Chicken Curry
Coconut cashew rice
Tempered spicy potatoes
Carrot and coconut salad

Adults $10  Children $5

Lunch is served at the Kafe' on Friday at 1pm.
Bookings are appreciated, please pay at the office.

Does anyone have or know of someone that we could contact to source some bunya nuts?
Please let the office know if you can help with this.
Thank you.

MY FIRST YEAR
A pictorial memento of our Sunshine Coast prep classes
So Cyclone Oma passed us by...oh well, at least the garden is a little tidier for all our storm mitigation.

The real whirlwind happened in the KAFE Kitchen today, with our preserving working bee.

A big shout out to the women of the school who brought their skills, ingredients, knowledge and kids to help – Bee on preserved limes, Sarah on chilli jam and lime jelly, Anita on jar sterilization, dish washing and photography, and Cristy on mouse melon pickles and cherry tomato relish. The kids - Art, Zoe, Kishi, Will, Willem, Finlay, Bodhi and Macey did a great job slicing, harvesting, blending, and recycling food scraps, too.

When I asked where the men were, Anita answered they were all feeling under the weather today... Right on cue, Butch arrived to attend to coffee duties for the hard-working women - and to wonder where his youngest son was: “I can’t see him anywhere”. Cristy, of course, knew exactly where Ollie was - to within a millimetre of a google maps search - having left him in the care of friends this morning!

The delicious goodies will be available to buy at the Kin Kin markets on Sunday, to raise money towards the Year 6 Canberra trip. Buy up big, no child should be left behind!
See you at the Kin Kin Markets this Sun 3rd March

Garden/Kafe Photos
NOTICE OF AGM

KIN KIN COMMUNITY GROUP INC.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday 29th March 2019
6.00pm Kin Kin Community Centre

Nominations for positions on the executive committee must be in to the Secretary, PO Box 63, Kin Kin or jann@lookinglass.com.au by 15th March 2019.
Nomination forms can be obtained from mckerob@bigpond.com or jann@lookinglass.com.au

The AGM will be held on 29th March at 6.00pm at the community centre. Only those members who are financial and have attended the required number of meetings under our constitutional rules will be entitled to vote for election of members.

Positions on the Executive are:
President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Please come along to the AGM which will be followed by our General meeting.

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BUSHCARE - February 2018

Hello fellow Bushcarers and welcome to 2018! Our first session for this year will be on Thursday 28th of this month - as usual the fourth Thursday of the month.

We will meet at 8am at the end of Leggetts Loop. Don’t forget to bring plenty of water, sun protection and your favourite weed eradication tools. Gloves and digging tools are very useful.

The dry summer has probably restricted the growth of weeds but no doubt there will be plenty of camphor laurel seedlings, especially under Eucalypts where birds drop the seeds.

We will check on the Singapore Daisy growing in Keys Creek and hope that the black plastic cover we put over it has done the job of killing it off.

There will be other areas to check as well and it should be pleasant working in the shade.

As usual we will stop at 10am for morning tea. Looking forward to seeing you there.

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THE NEW NOOSA PLAN

Also, the Noosa Council Pop Up Consultation Roadshow about the New Noosa Plan will be at Kin Kin Hall this Thursday from 9am – 1pm.

Council invites everyone to find out more information on the draft planning scheme. There are other venues and dates. Check Noosa Council website and visit yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au.
SOFTBALL BATTER UP PROGRAM FOR 4–8 YEAR OLDS STARTS IN NOOSA TUESDAY 5 MARCH

Boys and girls from kindergarten to Year 6 can learn the basics of softball in a fun, new Batter Up program to be run by Noosa Softball from Tuesday 5 March.

The 6-week program teaches 4 to 8 year-olds basic throwing, catching and striking skills through fun activities.

The program costs $60 per child and all players receive a free softball glove and ball. It will be held at the softball grounds in Tewantin on Tuesday afternoons after school.

Children interested in continuing with softball after the Batter Up program has finished can join Little League at Noosa Softball’s regular season which starts in Term 3 (after the September/October school holidays). Noosa Softball also has junior age groups up to Under 17, and a seniors program.

To register for Softball Batter Up or to find out more, please email noosasoftball@gmail.com or search for Noosa Softball on Facebook.

How many gummy bears?

These gummy bears are in the office. Have a guess for 50c as to how many are in the jar. Money raised goes to the Year 6 Canberra trip!