**FRIDAY, 30 JUNE 2023**

Dear parents and carers,

As the term has reached its conclusion it is time for reflection for the first half of the year. School environments and communities are busy and demanding places and with that we place a huge importance on reflection to improve. Our core focus is always improving the teaching and learning opportunities for all students and this week that was illustrated with the showcases in Tanner, Morimoto and Clement whereby students shared their learnings for the first semester. Earlier in the term the P – 2 part of the school celebrated part of their programs with our P – 2 assemblies which was brilliant to see the level of learning and engagement. Your child’s semester reports have been sent home to parents and carers last week, and this provides us with some indication on how they are progressing in the key learning areas and how we can improve together in the future.

Continuing the theme of reflection, I would like to wish Mrs Kathy Linehan the most amazing time in the next part of her life moving forward to retirement. Here are some of the thoughts from myself and staff on Mrs Linehan from the farewell assembly on Tuesday.

* Kathy has a quiet professional demeanour, and this is reflected in her way of developing others around her.
* Kathy is an open and self-reflective person who regularly looks for ways to improve which is demonstrated in her commitment to lifelong learning that she has modelled in the many years at Conder.
* Kathy has been an amazing colleague in determining ways forward to the school to be innovative in our teaching and learning. Kathy is clever at providing ideas for change and is open to being flexible in approaches and willing to challenge the principal's thinking!!
* Kathy supports staff in creative, innovative use of new teaching practices and resources to improve students learning opportunities. She is creative and seeks new ideas, utilising the learning spaces to maximise teaching and learning. This can be seen in her work with others in events like Wakkakirri, mini fetes, Lanyon under the stars, Junkyard play and the many camps she has organised over the last 10 years.
* Kathy does a fabulous job of making connections and drawing the community together, no better illustrated than in the work she has led with year 6 teachers and other staff with year 6 graduation events. Kathy’s high motivation on best ways to work with the community and in particular with disengaged learners she has connected the school with many support agencies like Kids Hope mentors, Girls group, Menslink and Lanyon Year 10 mentors from the high school who have come back this morning!!!
* Kathy is always measured and handles situations very well and is a role model to others with her consistent sense of calm. She is always polite and respectful towards everyone she engages with. As we will see today there have been many staff and children impacted in an overly positive way by your presence and outstanding contribution to the school.
* Kathy leaves a legacy of always looking on the bright side of life which is definitely will be one of my memories.

Kathy on behalf of the school community I wish you a well-deserved break and future planning for your next stage in life. We look forward to seeing you back for other events and graduation later in the year.

**CHARLES CONDER ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Many students are looking forward to our Athletics carnival next term. As in past years, our Athletics Carnival will be held over 2 days. Our main event will take place on Thursday, 27 July on our school oval. This will be a whole school event and all students from Pre-School to Year 6 will participate. All track events (800m, 200m, 100m, 70m) will be held on this day.

Our field events (Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus) will take place on Friday, 4 August at the Banks Playing fields. The carnival for our field events will be only open for students aged 10 years and above. Permission notes for our carnival at Banks will be handed out early next term, permission notes for our event on our school oval won’t be required. All parents are welcome to attend either day. Our traditional family races will be taking place on Friday, 4 July at 9.15am and we hope to have another strong turn out to enjoy the festivities. A schedule of events can be found attached.

If you have any questions about these carnivals, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Jon Tucker Jonathon.tucker@ed.act.edu.au Sports Coordinator

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

We wish all of our families a safe and happy school holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, 17 July for Term 3.

***Jason Walmsley***

Principal