

22 March 2021

Dear Middle School Parents and Carers

I am writing regarding an important change to routine in the final week of term. On Thursday 1 April, all students in Year 5, 6, 7 and 8 will be attending the Middle School Interwing Track and Field Carnival at the University of Queensland Athletics Centre, St Lucia. This carnival is a compulsory school day for all students, and we would appreciate a note from home if your son is unable to participate due to illness or injury.

All students will need to be punctual for roll call on the day of the carnival. Those competing in the 200 metres event are required to be at school by 8.10 am as the first bus departs at 8.20 am. All remaining students will depart after roll call, with the first event commencing at 9.00 am.

Departure from the venue will be at 2.15 pm to enable us to be back at school in time for boys to catch their usual public transport. Any boys catching public transport will need to change back into their academic uniform before departing the School.

The focus of this carnival is on participation and fun. All boys will be competing in a number of events in an attempt to win points for their Wing. For this carnival, all students will compete in their year level, therefore there will not be Age Champions awarded. The champion athlete for each age level will be decided by performance in the GPS Track and Field season later in the year.

The boys will only have limited access to canteen facilities throughout the day. It will be necessary to bring morning tea and a water bottle from home. I would also strongly recommend not relying on the canteen for main meals as the line-up will be considerable and there will only be limited opportunities to visit the canteen due to the busy carnival program. A BGS sports cap or hat and sunscreen are also must-have items.

What not to bring is also important. We request that students do not bring large sums of money, mobile phones, electronic games, handballs etc. These items are distractions for the boys who should be busy participating or cheering on their classmates.

Boys travelling by private transport may wear their regular PE uniform to and from school. Students travelling by public transport must travel to and from school in full academic uniform. All boys will wear their wing shirts when competing on the day. For those who have not yet purchased this item, they are available from the uniform shop. Students will change into their wing shirts at roll call. Boys should not arrive or depart the School in their wing shirts.

Faces may be painted with coloured zinc, but hair, arms, legs and shirts should not be painted. Any zinc will need to be removed from faces before departing the school grounds if travelling by public transport.

Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions parents are unable to attend this year and as part of our Covid safe arrangements with the venue, all boys must arrive and depart on the buses we provide. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, but parents will not be able to pick up their sons from the venue.

Competitors may run the 100 and 200 metre events in spikes, waffles, or their regular PE shoes. Bare feet are not an option for any event due to safety issues.

I am sure the boys will have an enjoyable day and we look forward to some friendly but fierce competition.

Regards

Glenn McFarlane **Head of Activities** Ph: 0405 172 817