



Birkdale South State School

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PRINCIPAL: CR EVEANS

8 March 2001

Dear Parents

Student's Name: «FirstName»

School: «Company»

Your child has been nominated by their school to participate in the 2001 Redland Shire Council Children's Voice Council. I would like to congratulate you, and your child on this fine achievement.

The Children's Voice Council is a local initiative of Education Queensland and the Redland Shire Council to develop tomorrow's leaders today. The program aims to provide primary school students with the opportunity to have a real voice in their local community.

Redland Shire has a Junior Council, which represents secondary school students. The Children's Voice Council or CVC will provide primary school children with an introduction to democratic decision making at a local level.

Included with this letter is an information sheet outlining the CVC program.

Each of the 25 schools in the Redland Shire has been invited to nominate two CVC representatives. Schools decide how the representatives are to be selected.

School student representatives must have parental support, as they are required to transport their child to and from CVC meetings and activities.

Ruth Brown from Victoria Point State School has volunteered to manage the CVC. She will work with Frances O'Loughlin, the Community Education Officer from Redland Shire Council.

The members of the CVC represent the various student councils that operate in schools. The CVC should provide student representative councils with an opportunity to provide a children's perspective on local government issues.

The CVC year commences with a four day workshop for school representatives. This workshop will be conducted in Cleveland from the **2nd to 5th April 2001**, commencing each day at 9:30 am and concluding at 2:30 pm. Parents are responsible for organising daily transport to and from Cleveland for their own child. A copy of the workshop program is included for your information.

The aim of the four-day workshop is to provide the students with the opportunity to:

- get to know each other;

- develop as a team;
- further develop their understanding of civics and local government;
- further develop their personal skills of communication, research and problem solving.

Attending the CVC workshop will be similar to attending school. Children will need to bring their own lunches. Children will be under the supervision of local teachers and administrators.

CVC membership for 2001 is \$ 40 per child. This provides each CVC member with a CVC shirt, badge and information throughout the year. Participating schools will be invoiced for the cost of CVC membership.

I thank you in anticipation of your support for this project and look forward to sharing the outcomes with you and your school community.

Yours sincerely

Chris Eveans