



Newsletter

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Dates to Remember

Term 1

March

- Mon 17th – Fri 28th Mar Prep – 2 Swimming Program
- Wed 19th Mar National Ride2School Day
- Fri 21st Mar
- Summer Gala Sports Day Grades 5/6
 - Hot March Night–fundraising Event
 - National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
- Mon 24th Mar
- School Council AGM 6-6.40p.m
 - School Council meeting 6.45p.m.

Mon 24th – Fri 28th Mar Teacher Planning Week

April

- Fri 4th Apr
- Casual Clothes Day – fundraising event
 - Easter Hat Parade 11.40a.m.
 - **End Term 1 – 2.30pm dismissal**

Term 2

April

Mon 21st Apr **Public Holiday – Easter Monday**

Tue 22nd April **Term 2 begins**

Fri 25th April **Public Holiday – Anzac Day**

May

Mon 12th May School Council Meeting 6.30p.m.

Thur 22nd May School Photos

June

Mon 9th June **Public Holiday–Queen’s Birthday**

Tue 10th June **Student Free Day**

Fri 27th Jun **End Term 2 – 2.30pm dismissal**

Future Dates

Sat 18th Oct

Kingsville Fete

Mon 3rd Nov

Student Free Day

Tue 4th Nov

Public Holiday – Melbourne Cup



Principal's Message

Kingsville Primary School has registered to be part of the **National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence** being held nationwide on Friday March 21st. This annual day provides a focus for all schools who want to make the clear statement of, **“Bullying No Way”**.

Kingsville students will certainly be making a very clear statement being:

“At Kingsville bullying or violence inside or outside the school, or on line will not be tolerated. It is not ok!”

Student leaders and Junior School Councillors (5/6) will be spreading the word, designing posters and planning visits to classrooms on the day.

As we all plan for this event it is timely to reflect upon how, as a school community we need to work everyday to build a supportive and safe learning environment. In doing this we need to be as they say: “on the same bus” and of course have common understandings about what we mean when talking about bullying.

Please find in this newsletter some information that was published to the school community in 2013 but remains very relevant as we think about **Bullying No Way** in 2014.

Parent Teacher meeting update

Thank you to all Kingsville parents who attended the meetings on Wednesday afternoon and early evening. The data clearly shows the engagement of our parent community in the learning partnership.

General Guidelines for Parents when making any Payments to the school:

End of Terms 1, 2 & 3 All payments need to be made prior to 10:00am on the last day of term.

End of Term 4 All payments must be made 2 days prior to the end of term.

Cash Payments Correct money is requested, as change cannot always be provided.

School Council President Sam Elg 0437 774 338
OSHC Camp Australia 0401 054 261

School Uniform Primary School Wear 9363 8458
Program Manager Asi Malu

Having such a high rate of participation in these parent teacher 'conversations' in Term 1, is so important in setting the scene for successful ongoing communication with parents throughout the year.

Kingsville parents here is your report card – A+

- 25 class groups
- 11 with 100% attendance
- 10 with 90% or over
- P-6 95.5%
- only 27 students did not have a parent attend and this number will reduce as some parents attend a meeting before the end of term

I have been Principal of KPS for a significant period of time and cannot remember such high attendance, so well done Kingsville parents/guardians.. The leadership team will be gaining feedback from parents and staff regarding a number of areas relating to Term 1 parent teacher meetings as we plan for 2015.

Please see feedback opportunity for parents in this newsletter. Responses should be returned via hardcopy or email to me at- Ginnane.Kathleen.KM@edumail.vic.gov.au

Great Effort – let's keep going

Updating student enrolment details

In the last newsletter 7th March, details of when and how to update student and family details at the Parent Teacher meetings were provided. We had a number of parents take up on this opportunity before or after parent teacher meetings which was great. There were however a number of families who missed out on the chance to check and update or amend their details.

As a great deal of planning and work went into setting up the materials in the library, we do want to gain as much updated information as possible via this method. To assist with this Blagma Veljanoska, Library manager has generously volunteered to leave the physical setup in place until Friday 21st March. She will be on duty in the library every day next week from 8.45-9a.m. and 3.30-3.45p.m. This will allow any parents who have not yet taken the opportunity to view their current details and make any adjustments to do so during this time.

Following this any forms that have not been updated will be mailed to the home address. We ask parents to then check, make any changes and return the forms. Please note, follow the instructions for making the changes provided in newsletter of 7th March. Any questions please email Blagma Veljanoska - veljanoska.blagma.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

Teacher Planning Week

See 'Dates to remember' (24th – 28th March)

What happens during this week?

In the second last week of each term a day is allocated to each level and the specialist team to begin the collaborative planning of the teaching and learning for the next term. This planning is driven through one of the six transdisciplinary themes to create a unit of inquiry, e.g. "Sharing the Planet". Levels reflect on the disciplines of Numeracy, English, Humanities, Science and The Arts and plan to incorporate important skills and knowledge into the unit. They also focus on planning stand-alone units within these subject areas. The specialists will plan collaboratively and contribute to one specific unit of inquiry from each level during the year. They will explore their own discipline, connecting the five essential elements and continuing the coherent nature of a transdisciplinary program.

At the heart of the transdisciplinary curriculum is the learner constructing meaning through the five essential elements: concepts, knowledge, skills, attitudes and actions. These elements go beyond disciplinary barriers and forge the curriculum into a coherent whole. The curriculum is transdisciplinary in nature because the meaning of the prefix "trans" is two-fold: to convey learning that has relevance across, between and beyond the subject areas and more importantly, learning that transcends the confines of the subject areas to connect to what is real in the world.

Through acknowledging and aiming to meet the diverse needs of the student – physical, social, intellectual, aesthetic, cultural, the programme aims to create learning that is **engaging, relevant, challenging and significant**.

Inquiry is the pedagogical approach to teaching and learning at Kingsville Primary School. It is the process initiated by the students or the teacher that moves the students from their current level of understanding to a new and deeper level of understanding. This can mean:

- exploring, wondering and questioning
- experimenting and playing with possibilities
- making connections between previous learning and current learning
- making predictions and acting purposefully to see what happens
- collecting data and reporting findings
- clarifying existing ideas and reappraising perceptions of events
- deepening understanding through the application of a concept
- making and testing theories
- researching and seeking information
- taking and defending a position
- solving problems in a variety of ways

It is a significant undertaking by the school both logistically and financially to facilitate a time such as this, for teachers to engage in a collaborative exercise that takes into account the approach outlined above. On the day that teams are planning, the classroom program continues with the support of the specialists and casual relief teachers.

The class teachers will talk to the children about this and prepare them for what to expect on the day.

Jeff McDonald
Director Teaching and Learning



Kingsville Awards

To be presented on Friday, 21st March

3/4A	No award
3/4B	No award
3/4C	No award
3/4D	Oscar Marks
3/4E	Lily Marioli
3/4F	No award
3/4G	No award
5A	Emmanuel Thuc
5B	Saskia Powles
5C	No award
6A	No award
6B	William Amos
6C	Madeleine Whiteside



Happy Birthday

20th March – 26th March

Happy Birthday to Gian Crees, Willow Macquire, Mila Gleeson, Alby Monagle, Fitzroy Ferguson, Gideon Deunk, James Calleja and William

Finlay, Lloyd Stembridge.

Parent Representatives - KPS 2014

2 representatives per class needed

For many years the Community Public Relations subcommittee have overseen a '**parent rep**' initiative to foster friendships and encourage social outings for the families in each grade. Each class had a volunteer parent to represent their class and organise a social gathering at least once per term. This year, in lieu of that initiative we are encouraging parents to still gather at least once per term socially either with or without the children. Natural social organisers will no doubt emerge from within most classes. This is especially important for the junior grades.

Although we won't be having class reps to focus on social aspects of life at KPS in 2014, never fear parent reps are still required! So as not to double up and exhaust our volunteer parents we will focus on each class having a **fete representative to coordinate the class stall**, as well as a **kitchen garden representative**. Hopefully you are all aware the KPS fete is on October 18th, if you can nominate please contact Nicole Virtuoso to express your interest in coordinating your class' stall (nicolevirtuoso@gmail.com or 0424 132 715). Please note the call is still out for each class to have a parent volunteer to coordinate some cooking in the classrooms using the produce from our wonderful garden, contact Leah Mannon to express your interest (lcmannon@optusnet.com.au)

Moira Junge
on behalf of Community Public Relations sub committee of School Council.

Student Action

Grade 1/2E

Let's have a clean school

Last week grade 1/2E decided to clean up an area of the school. We thought the area had too much rubbish around so we jumped into action, put on our gloves, and cleaned it up. We enjoyed the experience of looking after our school and respecting it. We will continue to look after our area. We would like to ask the rest of our school community to help in keeping our school clean and tidy. It only takes a little thinking to do. Let's remember

a clean school is a happy school

From 1/2E

Thanks to Alexander Elg and Hugo Speldewinde who **reported on this action** at Friday assembly.

Bully, bullying, being bullied

These words should not be terms that become a blanket label for grievances. Very often however, in schools and workplaces they are used to describe what is really a very wide range of people and behaviours.

Whilst in no way would I want to diminish the genuine devastating effects of bullying there is evidence to suggest both the misuse and overuse of the terms. Undoubtedly the “b word” is a common complaint in many schools and unfortunately often the catch cry for anything not liked. Parents will recount tales about their child coming home from school and declaring they have been bullied. “Heart in mouth”, explanations are sought and often it is discovered (much to parent relief) the behaviours described are not bullying, but rather the natural hierarchy sorting in the “school ground of life”.

Please be assured of course any instances of bullying at Kingsville are always worked through with students and parents at length. Staff in partnership with parents work on

- teaching resilience
- developing students’ coping skills
- developing students’ ability to deal with challenging situations, disappointment and new and unusual situations

We also strive to teach our students to respect difference and be tolerant and kind to each other. We speak about helping some children to, for want of a better term, “toughen up” – not so they ever tolerate bullying but so they don’t crumble the first time they are teased, fail or are rejected.

Resources

Whilst there are many excellent resources to assist schools and families build knowledge and expertise in this area there is also a huge industry out there filled to the brim with “bullying experts”. A child’s best defence will be to always:

- be prepared
- be knowledgeable (about what to do, how to speak out) and
- be aware of what bullying **is** and **is not**

How parents can join in

Have the conversations at home and build awareness of this National Day. Mark it on the calendar and maybe make a family poster or a placard, (which children might bring on the day to school).

At school

The Kingsville statement against bullying will be made at assembly and in every classroom during the day. A range of undertakings within the mainstream program will see poetry writing, drama, role playing, speech making, letter writing, singing and composing songs to name just a few.

To assist our understanding of the terms

Bullying

Bullying is when someone, or a group of people, deliberately upset or hurt another person or damage their property, reputation or social acceptance on more than one occasion.

There is an imbalance of power in incidents of bullying with the bully or bullies having more power at the time due to age, size, status or other reasons. Bullying may occur because of perceived differences such as culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability or disability, religion, body size and physical appearance, age or economic status. Bullying may be motivated by jealousy, distrust, fear, misunderstanding or lack of knowledge. It can continue over time, is often hidden from adults and will probably continue if no action is taken.

Types of bullying

There are four broad types of bullying:

Direct physical bullying: includes hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching and pushing or damaging property.

Direct verbal bullying: includes name calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, homophobic or racist remarks, or verbal abuse.

Indirect bullying: is often harder to recognise and can be carried out behind the bullied person’s back. It is designed to harm someone’s social reputation and/or cause humiliation. Indirect bullying includes:

- lying and spreading rumours
- playing nasty jokes to embarrass and humiliate
- mimicking
- encouraging others to socially exclude someone
- damaging someone’s social reputation or social acceptance.

Cyberbullying: is direct verbal or indirect bullying behaviours using digital technologies. This includes harassment via a mobile phone, setting up a defamatory personal website or deliberately excluding someone from social networking spaces.

What bullying is not

Many distressing behaviours are not examples of bullying even though they are unpleasant and often require teacher intervention and management.

Mutual conflict: involves an argument or disagreement between people but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.

Social rejection or dislike: is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

Single-episode acts: of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied.

Nastiness or physical aggression that is directed towards many different people is not the same as bullying. However, this does not mean that single episodes of nastiness or physical aggression should be ignored or condoned as these are unacceptable behaviours.

Unacceptable behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour in the school environment refers to a wide range of behaviours that are not acceptable or appropriate, as outlined in a school's Student Engagement Policy. This includes harassment, discrimination and a threat or act of violence.

Harassment

Harassment is behaviour intended to annoy, disturb, threaten or upset another person. Harassment and bullying may involve similar behaviours as both usually involve a person or group of people who have, or are perceived to have, more power deliberately upsetting someone on more than one occasion. Harassment may also occur because of perceived differences such as culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or religion.

*extract from "Building Respectful and Safe School" a resource for school communities, DEECD State Government Victoria

Jeff McDonald
Director Teaching and Learning

Fundraising News

Hot March Night

Please order your special price tickets for Hot March by Tuesday 18th March. Tickets can be purchased for \$25 per family on the night.

Please note Hot March night is a NON BYO event, alcohol can be purchased on the night.

Helpers are required for Hot March night, please put your name on the roster outside the library or alternatively email bbudlender@gmail.com if you are available to assist on the night.

Easter Raffle Baskets

Thank you so far for your kind donations for this year's Easter Raffle. If you have any Easter donations please place them in the tubs at the front office. There is always great excitement at the last assembly of the term as the raffle is drawn, so don't miss out buy some ticket.

Tickets for the Easter raffle are now on sale until Wednesday 2nd April.



Community Notices

North Footscray Auskick

Registration day 29th March at 9.30am
at Hansen Reserve, Roberts Street, West Footscray.
For more details call Suz on 0413 183 332.

HOT MARCH

Night

FRIDAY MARCH 21

6PM ONWARDS

**It's back!... and there's no better way
to kick off a new school year.**

Catch up with friends – old and new and enjoy
the entertainment at this relaxed family event.

PREPAID ADMISSION

\$20 per family / \$15 for 2 people

AT THE GATE

\$25 per family / \$20 for 2 people

AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT

Sausages / Hamburgers / Souvlaki

Sweets, treats & cold drinks

Beer & Wine will also be available

BYO chairs and picnic rugs

KPS SCHOOL COUNCIL HAS ENDORSED THIS EVENT AND EXPECTS ALL THOSE ATTENDING TO
CONSUME ALCOHOL RESPONSIBLY AND WITH CONSIDERATION THAT THIS IS AN ADVERTISED FAMILY EVENT.

FEEDBACK RESPONSE – PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Ongoing Improvement

As we work towards improvement in all areas of school practice, reflecting on how we provide for parent access and communicate with parents throughout the year is vital.

Whilst attendance at the Parent Teacher meetings was high this week we wish to 'dig a little deeper' regarding overall satisfaction. Please see below a couple of question and an opportunity to provide feedback.

The time provided for these meetings was 1.30p.m. until 6.40p.m.

Qa: Was this time overall satisfactory for you?

Yes / No

Comments:

Qb: Was the time allocated for your meeting/meetings possible and acceptable for your family?

Yes / No

Comment:

Taking into account that many families have more than one child at Kingsville, teachers work together in attempting to schedule appointments for siblings as close as possible in time

Q: If you attended more than one teacher meeting was any 'wait' time you experienced acceptable?

Comment:

The school is currently considering the possibility of introducing an online booking system for parent teacher meetings, student lead conferences and possibly other events.

Opinion/comment:

Other comments

Please reflect upon the Parent Teacher meeting experience and provide any other comments.

HOT MARCH NIGHT TICKETS

Place form in an envelope marked 'Hot March Night' with your cash or cheque by Friday 21st March 2014

Yes, my family (3 or more) would love to come for \$20 (please tick)

Yes, my family (1 adult / 1 child) would love to come for \$15 (please tick)

Please indicate the total number of people attending – Adults

Children

Eldest child's name

Class

Your name

Tel no

Cheques should be made to 'Kingsville Primary School'. Please don't staple money to this form.

Kingsville Primary School Easter Raffle – \$1 per ticket



Name & Class: _____

Contact no.: _____

Tickets due back to school by Wednesday 2nd April. Raffle drawn Friday 4th April at school assembly.

Please cut your tickets out before returning them along with the money in an envelope to your class teacher. Thank you!



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