Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to the finding out and fun we have in store for the term ahead - finding out about the history of Indigenous Australians, a Melbourne Museum excursion, Middle School House Sport and Razzle Dazzle starting up, House Cross Country (the first for Year 3!), our music program with Junior School Rockers taking off and let’s not forget all the stories we will write, books we will read and calculations we will make and all the fun that comes with being so busy.

Some highlights of the year already...
First off, we would like to thank Paul Moran from Ivanhoe Upholstery, because he kindly donated his time and effort to make some cool, cosy cushions for us to be comfortable while we work. We can highly recommend his work! Year 4’s had an epic time on camp at Mount Evelyn. It was absolutely amazing! The food was delicious, the activities were AWESOME and they all had so much fun! Working together for our Kew community expo was another fantastic time. Our swimming carnival was also a highlight. It was boiling hot, but everyone did amazingly well. Some students got into district! We also loved the Kew Rec swimming program. It was heaps of fun! The waterslide was the students’ favourite bit!
We look forward to having another absolutely fantastic term!

– Tom, Emma & Elise Year 4

Middle School is so good because you get to do Razzle Dazzle and you also get to do Year Book! We have the best custom made pillows! We also did Clean Up Kew, which was really fun. You also get to do fun subjects like Art, French, PE, maths, reading, English and library.

– Sullivan Year 3

Are you getting bored in your school? Then come here! We have amazing things like the Year Book!!! We also have a neat and clean oval with soccer goals, footy posts and a cricket pitch. We have plastic cricket stumps and plastic cricket bats. We have fun excursions and incursions. We also have the Peppercorn BBQ, Clean Up Kew, Athletics, House Cross Country and Swimming Carnival.

– Arnie Year 3

This year at Kew P.S. Middle School the 3/4s are making an amazing book – The Year Book! It’s a book but not just any book. You will NOT want to throw it out at the end of the year. Sure you want to throw out your maths book or your spelling book but you’ll want to keep this one! You work hard in it. You take your time with it. You don’t rush in it and you’ll LOVE IT!! It’s an amazing thing that only Middle School does!

– Rachael Year 4

Term 2 Events
April 19
House Cross Country
April 25
ANZAC DAY – PUBLIC HOLIDAY
May 4
Melbourne Museum – 34K, 34N, 34P
May 6
Melbourne Museum – 34E, 34J, 34S
May 10-12
NAPLAN – Year 3
May 27 – June 3
Reconciliation Week
June 13
Queen’s Birthday – PUBLIC HOLIDAY

REMINDERS:

Ready to Start: The first school bell rings at 8.50am and this is the time the students enter the building, hand notices to their teacher, place their iPad in their classroom and prepare themselves for learning. These routines are in place to allow the children ten minutes to settle and connect with friends. School starts at 9am.

As part of the sunsmart policy in schools, students are required to wear their school hats until the end of April.

Winter: Winter will mean an increase of runny noses. Please send in a box of tissues to your class.
Middle School teachers bringing the Razzle and Dazzle to spelling groups

**English** – Students will explore and practise narrative texts (i.e. short stories, short realistic fiction, historic fiction, fables, and dreaming). Our targeted spelling program, Razzle Dazzle, will begin and our inquiry project will incorporate an oral presentation, focusing on ‘What makes a good speaker? What makes a good listener?’

**Mathematics** – Through Hands on Learning students will explore, create and reflect on a mathematical concepts, including number, measurement, shape and data. Individual, small focus groups and whole class activities cater for students’ individual needs. Targeted Maths will continue on Tuesdays, 11.30-12.30. This is a whole school program and we are fortunate to have Robin Grace teach in the Middle School at this time, allowing for smaller groups which target learning to students’ point of need.

**“We’ve always belonged to this place” History Inquiry** - Some focus questions to assist with our investigation are: Who lived here first and how do we know? What was life like for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of the Europeans? What was the nature of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers? What was the consequence of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers? How and why do people choose to remember significant events of the past?

If you have any skills or connections that may assist with our inquiry, please let your child’s classroom teacher know.

**Melbourne Museum Excursion** - Tying in with “We’ve always belonged to this place”, we will be visiting the Melbourne Museum’s exhibition, First Peoples Gallery, and participating in the Our Shared History. Students will learn about the diversity of the First Peoples of Victoria and their place in the complex history of the Australian continent. It will be split into two days with 34K, 34N and 34P going on Wednesday May 4th and 34E, 34J and 34S going on Friday May 6th.

**iPad iDeas** – Below are some suggestions of free Apps which support literacy learning, which students occasionally have the option to use during school. Please download these if you are interested in some educational Apps for your child to play.

- Spell Mania
- A+ Spelling
- Boggle Free
- Word Jigsaw
- 7 Little Words
- Word Stack: A word association game
- Anagram Twist
- Jumble and unscramble text

Writer Lists is a good App for writing. It provides lists for characters (names, characteristics, occupations), plots, settings, genres.
NAPLAN – The Year 3 National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy Testing (NAPLAN) will be held on NAPLAN is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. For more information go to http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/prep10/naplan/index.html

| Tuesday 10 May, Language Conventions (40 minutes), Writing (40 minutes) |
| Wednesday 11 May, Reading, (45 minutes) |
| Thursday 12 May, Numeracy, (45 minutes) |

Home Learning – Home Learning will continue to be sent home each fortnight, as per Term 1.

House Sport – In support of our Health and Physical Education curriculum, House Sport has started for Middle School students this week. Students will practise and learn a number of interschool sports in preparation for Senior School. House Sport is on a Monday after lunch. Students should wear their runners and are encouraged to wear their House t-shirt.

If any parents are interested in helping out with sport, please speak to your child’s teacher for more details.

Active April & Premiers’ Reading Challenge – Active April is a program sponsored by the YMCA that schools across the state will be participating in. Well done to those students and families that have already signed up and started on our quest to become more active. The race is already on! Get your child signed up ASAP!


Kewriosity – is happening across the school for this term. We incorporate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) subjects in Kewriosity. This term we endeavour to build greater awareness of Indigenous knowledge of Science, Technology and Engineering linking it to our Inquiry, “We’ve Always Belonged To This Place”.

Thank you for your continued support,

Middle School Teachers

34J Jacki Hopkins  hopkins.jacquelyn.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
34K Katie Breamer  braemar.kathryn.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
34S Shenel Raif  raif.shenel.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
34E Elizabeth Murray  murray.elizabeth.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
34P Phoebe Stanmore  stanmore.phoebe.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
34P Patricia Incerti  incerti.patricia.p@edumail.vic.gov.au
34N Niall O’Brien  obrien.niall.h@edumail.vic.gov.au