Travel Dates

| Feb      |          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Fri 8    | Prep Parent Welcome Drinks, JSH, 6.30-8.30pm |          |          |          |  
| Tue 12   | Second Hand Uniform 3.15pm |          |          |          |  
| Fri 15   | School Photos |          |          |          |  
| Fri 15   | Peppercorn BBQ 5pm |          |          |          |  
| Tue 19   | Year 2 Swimming Begins |          |          |          |  

| Mar      |          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Tue 5    | Year 1 Swimming Begins |          |          |          |  
| Mon 4    | Years 5 & 6 Swimming Begins |          |          |          |  
| Thur 28  | End of Term 1 |          |          |          |  

Message from the Principal

Industrial Action

I’m sure that most of you are aware of the ongoing industrial dispute between the Australian Education Union (AEU) and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. As part of the industrial campaign union members have undertaken work bans and stop work action. Current work bans include a ban on all work which would involve members in schools working more than 38 hours in any week, as provided for in Clause 22(2) or 22(5) of the Victorian Government Schools Agreement 2008 (VGSA 2008), or working more than the hours required or agreed under Clause 19 of the Victorian Government Schools — Schools Services Officers Agreement 2004. A full day state-wide AEU Stop Work is proposed to take place next Thursday 14th February.

The members of the AEU sub-branch at Kew Primary School have implemented the ‘38 hour week’ work ban which does have implications for before and after school activities and meetings. The 38 hour week has provision for up to two hours of meetings with one additional hour that can be negotiated. At this stage formal and informal after hours activities in which staff would otherwise attend, such as parent/teacher interviews will not be scheduled as is usual during February. Other school activities affected by the current bans include non-staff attendance at social events such as the Peppercorn BBQ; Kew Festival; evening productions and sports training at the end of the school day. However, as is always the case, the class teacher remains the first point of contact should you have any issues or anything you need to discuss relating to your child’s schooling or contact can be made with our Leading Teachers: Sally Marsh (Prep-Year 2) and Andrew Wood (Year 3 – Year 6), Robin Grace or myself.

The Kew AEU sub-branch agreed late last year to allow the planning and organisation/running of our camping program to continue. Staff attend camps as a valued outdoor educational activity for students and give of their own time to support these opportunities for children. This responsibility is carried out well beyond school hours and where attendance at camp is a twenty-four hour- a-day commitment. Most other school programs will continue as usual, contrary to reports in the media. Can I suggest that if you do hear or read about such issues that you check with us first, before assuming that the media have reported accurately! I will provide updated information early next week should the proposed Stop Work action take place.

Wearing Hats: The Cancer Council advises that the wearing of hats ‘should be worn between September and April as a part of your daily routine’. Kew Primary School follows these guidelines in that all children are required to wear the prescribed hat for all outdoor activities during this period. Children are required to sit in the shade during recess and lunch time if they are not wearing a school hat. Hats are to be worn during school sporting sessions and during physical education classes. Also, during hot weather particularly we recommend that children have a drink container that can be used in class when they need to drink (water only, not sugary cordial or the like). The container can be topped up during the school day.

There has been no updated information from the Department of Education regarding the substantive principal position for the school. When the school council president is told of any outcome then the school community will be appropriately informed.

Barry Archibald
Acting Principal

EMA Reminder

If you think you are eligible for the EMA, please collect a form to complete from the office asap. They must be returned by 28th February.

Term Dates 2013

Term 1: 29 Jan to 28 Mar
Term 2: 15 Apr to 28 Jun
Term 3: 15 Jul to 20 Sept
Term 4: 7 Oct to 20 Dec

KPS Ph 9853 8325
www.kewps.vic.edu.au
E kew.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.OSHClub.com.au

7th February, 2013
No.1
Message from the Assistant Principal

Welcome back to Kew PS everyone and I trust all families were able to enjoy the break and spend quality time with each other and your friends.

Lots of activity and changes happened at the school during this break and my comments will outline all these changes. Firstly, the new sandpit has been constructed and the shade sails will be attached to the poles this Friday. The fundraising efforts of the PTA have made this project possible and I would like to thank all those mums and dads who have worked tirelessly on the numerous fundraising activities to raise the monies necessary to see this project completed. Also, a huge thank you must go to George Radcliffe Smith who has convened the PTA and been a driving force behind it. What will happen to the old sandpit I hear you ask? Well, it will be dismantled and some of the resultant space will be reclaimed as play area and there is a proposal that some of the area be used for the planting of a mature shade tree. The area will be beautified by placing our gorgeous carved benches currently housed in the admin area) around the tree. Further planting of native grasses will complete this development.

The canteen has been refurbished. Sally is thrilled with the new working spaces and the food she produces in there is as good as ever. I must admit I had cravings for her famous Anzac biscuits during the holidays. Good news- I can attest that they are as delicious as ever!

The library has been painted and some walls have been removed to create more open space. Further work will happen during the year with new carpet to be laid, new furniture as well as blinds to be purchased. All monies that are donated by parents to the Library Fund will go a long way towards completing these renovations. So thank you to those parents who have contributed generously to the Library Fund already. Further purchases of books, educational games and posters have been planned as well.

The area in front of the Junior School has been tidied up and re-landscaped with fresh tanbark making the area look much better. Planting of native grasses will happen later in the year when the weather is more conducive to their survival. The Green Thumbs from Grade Six will be assisting the students from Prep – Grade Two do this.

New furniture has been purchased for the Grade Four rooms and will be delivered in early March, giving those learning spaces a fresh new appeal, more in keeping with the concept of learning similar to learning spaces in our Level Four area.

As we know during January the weather was extremely hot over numerous days and two very generous families gave up their time to water our kitchen garden. I would like to thank the Mc Connon and Waters families for doing such a wonderful job. When we all returned for the start of the school year our kitchen garden was flourishing and a delight to behold, especially the gorgeous sunflowers. Another thank you must go to Emma Rush, Sonia McCully-Saggers and Jayne Campbell for spending a number of hours weeding and tidying up the school yard before the children returned on Thursday.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff – teachers as well as office staff and teacher aides for all their combined efforts in making the start to our school year such a positive one.

Robin Grace

Reminder School Photo Day is Friday 15th February.

Level 4 students are requested not to wear their Kew Sport top for the photos.
Kew Primary School Blog

Last year Kew Primary set up a blog to keep parents, teachers and the broader school community informed about, connected to and engaged with our school. There were blogs on volunteering, an interview with the Grade 2 teacher, Clio Williams, a detailed two part review of the school’s iPad program and some suggestions for holiday reading from our first guest blogger.

The first blog this year is for all the new parents who have kids starting in Prep. It’s called Top Ten Tips for Panicked Preppie Parents and you can check it out by clicking the link here: http://kewprimaryschool.com.

Anyone can write for the blog and in the next newsletter I’ll talk more about that and how you can become involved. Thanks. I hope you enjoy it.

Jacqui Tomlins

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le français

Bonjour et bienvenue a la rentrée!

Chers Parents,

I am delighted to inform you that this year I am implementing French at the Prep level. All Prep classes will receive one 50 minute session of French every second week. I am using my recently trialled CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) approach (Semester 2, 2012) - in which the study of subject content is combined with the use and learning of a foreign language. The children will be introduced to the French language through the study of art, and in this I am most ably supported by the expertise of our art teacher, Bit Mclean, who also participated in last year's CLIL trial, as the art (subject content) expert. This is a wonderful opportunity to both consolidate and develop the experience of the trial, and to expand the approach at our school. If you have any questions on this bilingual educational program, please contact me.

Also on the subject of CLIL, the beautiful murals that our 2012 Grade 3 classes completed as part of the CLIL trial are now on permanent display in our stairwell 'gallery' in the main building. I invite you to come and enjoy these wonderful creations. As well as the paintings themselves, see if you can appreciate the titles of each piece, which were chosen by each class after discussion, suggestions, and a subsequent voting process.

Merci a vous!

Madame Payne
Welcome back KPS! My apologies for not including an end of year report in the final newsletter of 2012 - I won’t bore you with excuses!

Belatedly... it was a fantastic year for the PTA with the biggest group of parents for many, many years and what a great group they were! A BIG thanks to Sue Friend, Loraine Trist, Belinda Holmes, Susie Clarke, Joanna Szeszycka, Maria Nerouppos, Cait Mullins, Emma Moore, Emma Rush, Alicia Taylor, Lorraine Tsotosoros, Angela Gill, Chris Powers, Emma Cooney, Prue Jackson, Lisa Baker and of course our 2012 teacher rep Mary Whitehouse.

After running ten ‘community-building’ events resulting in raising funds in excess of $22,000, I think everyone should be quite chuffed. These funds will ensure that the filthy sandpit area can be relocated to the shade behind the Junior Hall and the central sports area re-surfaced; this will make a real difference to the grounds and play quality for the kids for years to come so well done everyone! None of this would be possible without the extra help of non-PTA parents and staff who have wrapped, shopped, served, donated, cooked, cleaned, decorated, bean-counted and sausage-flipped throughout the year so thank you to you all too.

2012 Bush Dance & Peppercorn BBQ:
As I was away I missed out on this amazing event, which brought virtually the whole school community together for a fantastic end of year celebration and raised in excess of $10,000 at the same time! A special thanks to Emma Moore who got the event off the ground and coordinated it from the start, and to all the enthusiastic helpers on the night, who I believe were many. Thanks in particular to Claire Tanner, Kate Denby, Kevin Jones, & Nicole Hill who put in a huge effort organizing and running the bar; to Cait Mullins & Alicia Taylor who coordinated the BBQ; to Emma Rush who supported Emma M with rosters and a myriad of other things, as did Cate Thomson; to Loraine Trist & Belinda Holmes who managed the merchandise; to Richard Warren-Smith who utilized his monkey skills to erect the lighting; to Adam Clarke & 'some fantastic random guy' who lugged everything around for set up; to Emma Cooney & Kerri Mazzocco who produced more delicious salads; to Susie Clarke & Angela Gill who sat at the gates; to Sue Friend who managed the finances; to Prue Jackson who fairy-flossed herself into a pink haze; to the generous families, classes, teams and businesses who donated prizes for the raffle; to Siobhan Wolff who was official photographer; to Glenferrie Meats who again supplied us with hundreds of sausages… and to all the following people who filled rosters and supplied resources to ensure the night was such a success: Chris Power, Katrina Wheelen, Helen Robinson, Trish Hook, Heidi Italia, Matt Mullins, Bruce Webb, Amanda Aitken, Kate McPherson, Shiva Akbarzadeh, Maria Nerouppos, Jen Howard, Dean Nibali, Paul Borovac, Joanna Szeszycka, David Clayton, Chris Holly, Lee Coleman, Glenn Hollingsworth, Mary Chong, Michael Senyard, Peter MacGillivray, Nicole Bradley, Nikki McKennon, Jenny Cotopoulos, Alison Clayton, Susie Grabsch, Jo (Rhianna's mum), Alison McKellar, Monica Seamer, Maria Vrbovski, Jane Andrews, Tom Chambers, Jane Ford, James McNabb, Dominica Zentner, John Asvestas, Sarah Nicholls, Mark Wroe, Emma Warren-Smith, Juliana Markl, Nicole Bradley, Emma Hindhaugh, Ruby Jolly, Fadhia Mansour, Amanda Aitken, Bruce Webb, Sonia McCully, Maya Rivis, Jacqui Tomlins, Chrissy Franklin, Pat Boham, Gina Mure , Catherine Gizdimidis, Sue Du, Andrea Stevens, Natalie Rowell, Kath Phelan, Tracey Evans, Helen Ross, Lelen & Phil Kemke, Lisa Geier and Tom Hallam.

There are even more people from all year levels who joined in on the night and made things happen, who chipped in to help set up and clean up, or who helped out in a number of ways in the lead up but whose names we did not catch at the time - you know who you are so thank you so much. When KPS bands together it really knows how to put on a good show!

Prep Welcome Drinks, Friday 8th February, 6:30pm, Junior Hall:
All Prep parents and staff are warmly invited to share a relaxed couple of hours hosted by Year 1 parents and the PTA in the Junior Hall. Come along and meet other Prep parents and staff, and have a drink and something to eat. This is a great way to get to know some faces early in the year, faces who will become increasingly familiar over 2013 and beyond.

2013 Start of Year Peppercorn BBQ, Friday 15th February, 5:00pm, Under the Peppercorn Tree:
All KPS students, parents, siblings and staff are invited to come along for a relaxed evening under the peppercorn tree to kick start 2013. This is always a really fun night (that often runs late into the dark) so don't miss out. Bring your own picnic or grab a snag or burger from the PTA BBQ. (BYO drinks, chairs, rugs etc.) See you there.

Cheers
George
Second Hand Uniform

The Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open next Tuesday, 12th Feb from 3.15 - 4.00 - (you will find us outside, near the Library)

The Second Hand Uniform Shop also welcomes donations of 'gently loved' School Uniforms & bags. Please don't donate items that are in need of major repair, are badly faded or stained. (Donations can be left at the school office).

For those parents wishing to buy uniforms, all items in the shop are laundered (where practical), in good condition, and are ready to wear! Prices are as follows:

- Polar Fleece Vest - $8 (80% off RRP)
- Summer Dress - $9 (80% off RRP)
- Rugby Top - $6 (80% off RRP)
- Round Neck Windcheater - $5 (80% off RRP)
- Winter Skirt - $9 (80% off RRP)
- Short/Long Sleeved Polo Shirt - $5 (80% off RRP)
- School Shorts - $4 (80% off RRP)
- School Hat - $2 (75% off RRP)
- Track Pants - $4
- Skorts - $5
- School bag - $5

Lost Property

Has your child misplaced their jumper, hat or lunchbox already??! If so, please check the two lost property areas located in the school. A green bin is located in the junior hall entrance - and there is a large grey cupboard in the foyer area, before you reach the school office/Art room. Often a senior jumper will make its way into the Junior building & vice versa.

To avoid lost property - please ensure that all your child's items are clearly labelled.

KPS has ongoing fundraising accounts with clothing label companies Stuck on You and My Name Label. This means that any parent/friend orders result in monies coming back to Kew Primary School!

Order forms are available from the School Office, or can be completed online if preferred.

www.mynamelabel.com.au (agent code: cab6ee89)
www.stuckonyou.com.au (agent code: KEWPS)
Welcome back to another wonderful year of saving and banking everyone! Just a reminder banking will remain each TUESDAY. Please hand your wallets to your teacher or the office before the end of lunchtime. There are some wonderful new prizes this year so get those tokens ready to swap. Everyone will receive a banking pack with the sheet of prizes to order when you hand in your wallet next week. Hopefully all our lovely new Preppies received a parent pack explaining how to start up banking with CBA and the school but remember, it does not matter which year level you are in, you can start banking with us any time. Just come to the office to see me at snack time or lunch and I will give you an information kit to take home. The bank has decided that schools will have one “Token Redemption Day” each term. I will let you know soon when ours will be for this term. Keep on saving and look forward to your prizes!

Nic B.
To All Kew Primary Families

IT’S TIME FOR

THE 2013

PEPPERCORN

BBQ...

...START THE YEAR WITH A BANG(er)!

It’s a great chance to catch up with old friends, meet more families, and share a snag and a laugh under the iconic peppercorn tree in the centre of the school grounds.

FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

5PM-8PM

Available to purchase:
Sausages in bread
Salads
Soft drinks (BYO alcohol)

Or Bring a picnic and make yourselves at home.

This is a really fun night for kids and parents alike so don’t be shy, BE A PART OF IT!
Kew Primary School
Chess Club, 2013

Term 1 commences on Friday 1st February

Dates: 1/2 – 22/3: (8 weeks)

Time: Friday’s 1.00pm – 1.50 p.m. – Library.

Cost: $80.00 (8 lessons) for the term.

PLEASE NOTE: If chess lessons coincide with swimming or school camp, please deduct the cost of these lessons from the total amount. Otherwise students will not receive a refund for classes missed. Students commencing after the first week do not pay for the earlier lessons.

Cheques should be made payable to “Chess Ideas” or we take payment via Visa and Mastercard. The completed form should be handed into the school office.

PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE AT: www.chess.ideas.com.au

If your child has a medical condition we should know about please ring our office with details.

Play Chess at home against the computer.
Click on “play chess”. It’s fun!

CHESS REGISTRATION TERM 1, 2013
(Kew Primary School)

NAME OF CHILD: ___________________________________ GRADE: ____________

CONTACT PARENT/GUARDIAN: _________________________ Ph. #: ____________

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: ____________________________________________

Credit Card Details:

NAME ON CARD: ___________________________________ CARD TYPE: ________

CARD NUMBER: ___________________________________ EXPIRY DATE: __________

CCV #__________

Please enclose $80.00 and return to school office with completed form.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO – ‘CHESS IDEAS’.
Foster Care Information Session

Can you offer a child in need a home-cooked meal, a warm bed and the security of an adult’s care? With kids headed back to school, now is the perfect time to think about becoming a foster carer. More foster carers are desperately needed to help fill the gaps for emergency, respite and long term care situations within our local community.

Learn more about how you can make a difference by attending our next information session on Tuesday 12 February, 7.30pm, Surrey Hills Neighbourhood House, 157 Union Rd, Surrey Hills, 3127. Carers come from all walks of life and are supported by a case-worker 24 hours a day. Foster carers are able to nominate the ages and genders of children they can care for. For bookings and enquiries call 1300 889 335 or email fostercare.eastern@anglicarevic.org.au

Thanking you and kindest regards

Karen Piscopo
Recruitment, Training and Retention Team
Out of Home Care - Box Hill office - Eastern region
Anglicare Victoria
7-11 Shipley Street, Box Hill 3128
Ph: (03) 9896 6322
FX: (03) 9890 8640
In office: Mon, Tues and Thurs.