**Diary Dates**

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<th>Mar</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11</td>
<td>School Assembly 3pm</td>
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<td>Tue 15</td>
<td>School Council 7.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 16, Thur 17</td>
<td>Carnival Book Fair (before &amp; after school)</td>
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<td>Thu 17</td>
<td>School Tour 2pm</td>
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<td>Wed 23</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
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<td>Thu 24</td>
<td>End of Term Early Dismissal 2.30pm</td>
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<td>Mon 11</td>
<td>Term 2 starts</td>
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**Message from Principal**

As I walk around our school each day I am impressed and amazed by the wonderful array of displays. Our learning spaces are looking terrific and these displays are a mix of student work, information and ideas. We also have two large TV screens that display photos from different activities around the school. These are located outside the main office and in the Junior School Hall.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SWIMMING TEAM**

Congratulations to the eight KPS students who competed at the EMR Primary Swimming Competition held at the Aquanation in Ringwood on Monday 7th March. Further details can be found under Sports News later in the newsletter.

**SCHOOL REVIEW**

Our school will complete a comprehensive review process this year. DET schools complete this process every four years. The review will be conducted by external reviewers. Part of the requirement is the completion of a detailed self-evaluation. This is an opportunity for parents to provide some input. This feedback will be obtained via an online survey and I will also run two “Meet with the Principal” sessions (one during the school day and another on an evening) early in Term 2.

During our self-evaluation period a range of data will be presented with a focus on:
- What did our school set out to achieve in 2013-2016?
- What did we actually achieve in 2013-2016?
- What factors supported or inhibited our success?
- Where might we focus future effort?

Our Leadership Team, staff and students will also have a large level of input into our self-evaluation.

**YEAR 6 ACTION TEAMS**

I am excited about the work and plans of our Year 6 leaders. Each of the action teams has an ambitious plan to implement this year. For example, the Ambassadors aim to set up a Big Brother/Big Sister program across the school and also run tailored sessions in classrooms around topics such as BullyBusters, etc.

**OVAL UPDATE**

I hope that the oval redevelopment will be completed by the end of next week. Some delay has occurred due to the hot weather. At this stage we have set a tentative date of 15th April for an official opening event. This is the first Friday back in Term 2. This will be a terrific celebration for our school!

**DATES FOR THE CALENDAR**

18th May – Michael Ymer (Maths Consultant) Parent Evening.
2nd June – Pupil Free Curriculum Day.
SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS
This week all of our School Council Sub-committee met. Here is an outline of some of the work that each of these teams will do this year to support our school community.

EDUCATION & POLICY UPDATE
This team has a very significant role to play this year. There are several key policies that will be developed and the group will also be involved in our school review and self-evaluation process. Each time a new policy is developed or an existing one is reviewed, it is made available for community consultation on the school website. This then allows two weeks for comment and feedback before being taken back to School Council for endorsement.

Policies under current development include: Teaching & Learning, Preventing Bullying, eSmart, School Philosophy and Child Protection Reporting.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th April at 5pm in the staffroom.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS UPDATE
Already there has been significant work done around our school to ensure that it is safe and attractive. These works have included: new carpet in the middle of rooms 19 and 20, fixing of evaporative cooling in some classroom areas and re-coating of the gym floor.

Other works that are being quoted for, include the installation of air-conditioning in rooms 12, 13 and the Art room, fixing the puddle that forms near the basketball courts, installing blinds to the North and West sides of the gym, a painting program to ensure our school is maintained, fixing of the bin area along Pakington Street and redeveloping some of our garden areas. Of course this list is extensive and expensive they won’t all be completed this year. We have set some priorities and will complete as much as we can with the funds we have via our Grounds & Maintenance Voluntary Fees and our fundraising events.

An important project that is our main priority is the oval redevelopment area Part 2. This includes rolling out natural turf and landscaping the area next to our positive play sheds. This project is now being designed and developed with a view to starting during Term 2.

We are also very keen to ensure that our gardens, playgrounds and pathways are neat and maintained. Our first working bee will target this work and help to make our school look its very best. The date for this will be Sunday 17th April from 9am – 12pm. To encourage families to attend we will be offering a $5 lunch order voucher to all students that attend with a parent. (Yes students, you have to help on the day as well!).

If you would like to join our Buildings & Grounds team our next meeting is Tuesday the 19th April at 6.30pm in the staffroom.

PTA UPDATE
Our PTA group is a mix of parents and teachers who share the aim of ensuring our school community is informed, connected and engaged. The team has set up a variety of events and activities designed to raise funds but also strengthen the real Kewmunity feel we have at our school. We currently have an Easter Bundraiser in operation where the school will receive $2 for every 6 pack of buns ordered. Please see details in this newsletter.

Other activities coming up include:
- Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 16th April
- Mother’s Day Lunch on Friday 29th April
- Mother’s Day Stall on Thursday 5th May
- Parent Social night on Friday 20th May
- Lap-a-Thon on Friday 3rd June

If you can assist with any of these events please contact Melanie Eades via the school office or the PTA email address: kewprimarypta@yahoo.com.au
Message from Assistant Principal

Last week in the newsletter I wrote about the students in our swim team who had made it to the Regional Swimming Championships. I must congratulate all those students on their efforts, firstly to get there and then on their results on Monday. The boys Open Medley comprising Sam and Ben Thomson, Allan Liang and Taiyo Siew Adachi came 7th in this event, the Boys 11 year old Freestyle relay comprising Bayley Waldhorn, Ben Thomson, Tom Waters and Allan Liang came 4th in this event and in the 11 year old Breaststroke event, Allan Liang came first and will now compete at the State Swimming Championships to be held on Tuesday 19th April. Congratulations to all our students for their fabulous results and our best wishes must go to Allan when he competes in the State Championships. Our students did themselves and our school proud for the manner in which they competed and supported each other. A big thank you must go to Kate Thomson who represented Kew PS and supported our Swim Team.

Also, in last week’s newsletter I mentioned a second opportunity for parents to attend an information session regarding “Parents in the Classroom”. This session is planned for Tuesday 22nd March and will be held in the Library from approximately 9:00-10:00 after drop off time. Sally Marsh and I will be taking this session and we would love to see as many new parents as possible to this informative and fun session.

Last night, the first meeting was held of the Building and Grounds subcommittee with the main focus of the meeting being to set the dates for the working bees for the year as well as looking at the priorities for further improvements to the buildings and grounds, following the completion of the oval in the coming days. Of course, one immediate priority is grassing the area behind the oval and improving the sandpit in the very corner of the school grounds so that the positive play program can begin. Our first working bee will be held early in Term Two on Sunday 17th April from 9:00-12:00. As I have always remarked in past newsletters, “many hands make light work” so please put that date in your diaries. Our school is looking good so let us all work together to make it look great!

Robin Grace

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Class 3/4E
Friday 11th March at 9am
‘Bean 2 Q’
234 High Street, Kew
(Opposite Toscano’s)
RSVP Fiona 0402084245
Kew Primary School Blog

This week on the blog: Prep - it's all about playing the long game.

Do you have something you’d like to share on the blog? All contributions are welcome. Please drop me a line at: katrina.w@ozemail.com.au

Katrina Whelen

Sports News

Congratulations to the eight students that competed at the EMR Primary Swimming Competition held at the Aquanation in Ringwood on Monday 7th March.

This was a tough competition mentally and physically for our swimmers and parents.

Thank you to Cate Thomson for her support with the EMR timing discrepancies.

Results

1st - Age 11 Boys breaststroke - Allan Liang

4th - Age 11 Boys Freestyle - Ben Thomson
     Tom Waters
     Allan Liang
     Bayley Waldhorn

7th - Open Boys Medley - Sam Thomson
     Taiyo Siew Adachi
     Ben Thomson
     Allan Liang

We wish Allan Liang the best of luck competing in the State Championship on 19th April at MSAC.
Library News

Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th March - before and after school in the Library

Coming this week…

Information & permission notes for the Premiers’ Reading Challenge will be sent home. This is a whole school event and we encourage all students to participate.
Over the years Bakers Delight bakeries have assisted many local schools and clubs in their fundraising efforts by donating a percentage of Hot Cross Bun sales over the Easter period.

As a special fundraising offer, purchase Hot Cross Buns via the trybooking link, and for every 6-pack purchased Bakers Delight will donate $2.00 of the $7.00 RRP back to Kew PS.

Order Link  http://www.trybooking.com/KRIL.

Please place your orders by midnight Thursday 10th March. Bun packs will then be delivered on Friday 18th March to the school.
Blackburn High School  High Achievers’ Program for Year 7, 2017

Applications are now open.

How to Apply
Applications are online at www.blackburnhs.vic.edu.au

Test date:
Saturday 14th May 2016, 8:30am for 9:00am start Concludes 12.00pm (Noon)

High Achievers’ Program Information Evening
Tuesday 19 April, 2016 – 7.00pm – 8.00pm at Blackburn High School

The Information Evening is an opportunity for parents to learn more about the program and the examination and interview process.
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MALVERN JUNIORS
– 2016 Pre-season training begins on the 2nd of February

Tues & Thurs afternoons at 5:30 pm.
All new players welcome at all levels (U7’s to U18’s).
Please contact: Costa Caimakamis
phone: +61 412 371 456
e-mail: ctmagroup@optusnet.com.au
for any enquiries.

MALVERN CITY FC
JUNIOR TRAINING

TUESDAY FEB 2 5:30 PM
SIR ZELMAN COWEN PARK
UNDER 7’S - UNDER 18’S

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