Hello and welcome to our newsletter for this week. One of the best parts of being a Principal and working at a school is getting to see what our students do each day. When I walk around the classrooms and the grounds in general I see such a wide range of learning and activity. Life at Kew Primary is certainly full of a rich array of experiences and even though I enjoyed my primary school years, I think Kew has it well and truly covered.

One opportunity where we get to share some of these experiences is our Friday afternoon assemblies. These are hosted by a dedicated group of Year 6 leaders and are a great way to finish and celebrate our week. Last week we all enjoyed hearing about and watching via a recording on an iPad, the Year 6 Billycart Leadership Program. Did you know that these students are working within small teams, each with a specific role to build a billycart and then race for the “Davis Cup”? I can’t wait until the big race day early next term.

Each week our assemblies will feature a different year level. This week we will hear from the Year 4’s.

I encourage parents to attend assemblies when they can – but please remember that our students are always trying to display their best listening behaviour and we need our parents to do the same. I get feedback that our parents can get very noisy toward the back of the gym making it hard for our grades to hear.

I also encourage you to read our newsletter each week. I spoke with one parent recently who stated that they wanted to know more about what was happening in the school while admitting they didn’t read the newsletter. I understand that it takes some time each week to read. In my own home we have three different school newsletters each week! I try to ensure that I read them all, at least with a quick skim read. I do this because I know how important it is to keep up with what is happening in my children’s schools and also because I know that the principal of the school and others have invested time in writing and putting the newsletter together.

Our newsletter is the very best way to keep informed about our school. Other ways you can do this is to email teachers or myself any questions you have or make a time to speak with us in person. I always say that it is better to go directly to the source or to someone who knows what is happening rather than get involved in playground gossip. I am always more than happy to make a time to talk with members of our community about any issue they may have and each week I meet with many parents and carers.

School Council Update

Last night our 2015 School Council met for the first meeting of the year. I would like to congratulate and thank the following for being elected into the following positions:

School Council President = Julie Coleman
Vice President = Antony Williams
Treasurer = Phil Kemke
PTA Liaison = Rachel Naylor
Education & Policy Convenors = Mitul Bhargava & Antony Williams
Buildings & Grounds Convenor = James Penson

Membership of our Sub-committee was also confirmed with each member of our school council serving on at least one of these. Our sub- committees will meet two weeks prior to each of our school council meetings on the following dates and times:

**SCHOOL COUNCIL – WEDNESDAYS @ 7.15PM**

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<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>4th March - First Meeting</th>
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<tr>
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<td>25th March - Presentation of Annual Report</td>
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<th>Term 2</th>
<th>6th May</th>
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<th>Term 3</th>
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<th>28th October</th>
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<td>25th November</td>
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**EDUCATION & POLICY – TUESDAYS @ 5.00PM – 6.00PM**

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<th>Term 1</th>
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**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – TUESDAYS @ 6.30PM – 7.30PM**

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**PTA – TUESDAYS @ 7.30 - 8.30PM**

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<th>Term 1</th>
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If you would like to become involved with one of these groups please contact me at the school.

The next school council meeting will be on 25th March. At this meeting the 2014 Annual Report will be presented and endorsed by School Council. Parents and community members are invited to attend this public meeting.

**JOBS AROUND THE SCHOOL**

Schools always have so much going on and so much to do. If you ever have a few moments and can assist please let me know. At the moment we would like some assistance with weeding, spreading mulch, assisting in the library, helping in the classroom, and of course being a class rep. We do appreciate the very high level of parental involvement and input into our school and I believe that this sets us apart from many other schools.

**CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

Thank you to the PTA for assisting to coordinate our Parent Class Representatives program for this year. This is a really important element of our school and it assists in building strong and effective communication between home, school and community. Thank you also to the following reps for each grade:

- **PCC**  
  Melissa Alemis  
  Andrea Herrman

- **PDM**  
  Sonia McCully-Saggers

- **PSA**  
  Janine Arantes  
  Palingu Aponso  
  Nikki Schwarz  
  Catherine Handbury  
  Yigang Zeng

- **12M**  
  Natasha Edwards  
  Monica Seamer  
  Lisa Cumming

- **1LB**  
  Anna McDowell

- **2BN**  
  Nikki Schwarz

- **2GP**  
  Kath Phelen/Von Wyss  
  Salley Tung

- **2MW**  
  Filiz Yucel  
  Melanie Eades

- **34J**  
  Kath Phelen  
  Annette Karcher  
  Fiona Hollingsworth  
  Julia Hicken

- **3DP**  
  Marnie Hardman  
  Amanda Aitken

- **6SH**  
  Loraine Trist  
  Kate Coppock

As you can see we still need class reps for 1KB, 3EM, 4AP, 4LM, 4SR, 5CW, 5SM, 6AW and 6JD

**COMPULSORY TERM COSTS PAYMENT**

Each year we plan and run a wide range of incursions, excursions, camps and other events. These activities add value to our programs and are extremely important to life as a student at our school. These activities are not funded by DEECD and as such are based on a user pays system. At present many of these costs (for general excursions and incursions for each year level) are collected via our compulsory Term Payment system. Our school cannot provide these activities if these term costs payments are not received.
As such I need to outline that from the start of Term 2, students will not be permitted to attend activities that require payment if this payment has not been received by the due date unless parents have not spoken with me to make alternative arrangements.

This process will be strictly enforced to prevent some students subsidising the activities for others. We cannot run any excursion or event if the cost is not fully covered by the excursion fee.

If you are unable to make the required payments or would like to speak to me about making alternative arrangements such as a payment plan please contact me via the office to make a time. A student will not miss attending an event if a parent or carer has made contact with me and made these alternative arrangements.

KEW FESTIVAL

Once again our school will be involved in the Kew Festival this year. The date is set for Saturday 21st March. As in 2014 the parade will take place in front of The Curve stage in Victoria Park, High Street, Kew. The lead groups this year are Kew School of Dance and the Melbourne Scottish Fiddlers. The dance movements will be based on a simplified version of the choreography for Kew School of Dance’s recent production of Peter Pan.

Those attending are asked to be at the stage in Victoria Park by 10am. At 10:10, dance leaders assigned to each group will demonstrate and teach the simple steps that we are asking you to do. For those too young or impeded by strollers, walkers, etc., we will show you how you can also be part of the event without having to actually dance.

The parade will commence at 10:30am with the grand entry of the Fiddlers and the Kew School of Dance, who will play for the crowd before the parade itself begins at around 10:40am. Once everyone is confident and moving well on the spot, we will start to move around in a grand circle to the accompaniment of the Scottish Fiddlers. The Parade will end by 11am and be followed by a pigeon release and an Acknowledgment of Country ceremony and performance.

In preparing for the event, please wear shoes that are suitable for dancing or moving on bare ground (no high heels). Regarding costume the theme is Raise the Rhythm! and that can be interpreted in many ways. We encourage the wearing of wings, whether fairies, dragons or birds.

STUDENT REFERENCES

I have had contact from a couple of parents seeking clarification about our decision to only provide verbal references for students enrolling at other schools. The reasons for this decision are as follows:

- It is often hard for a teacher to say no to a request or for a parent to accept this answer (especially if the teacher has said yes to another student) and in the interest of equality and fairness the staff feel that a consistent approach is best.
- Our staff are working particularly hard and have many extra demands being placed on them. I need to ensure that their time at school is maximised and focused on delivering our action plan for this year.
- Our school report documents act as our references for students.

SCHOOL ENROLMENTS 2016

Believe it or not we are now starting to forward plan for 2016! Soon I will be sending a letter home to all families with younger siblings that may be starting school next year. It will be important for you to indicate to me that you have a child starting in 2016 and completing an enrolment form as early as possible. We have arranged several school tours later this term and early next. The dates are in this newsletter and on our website. If you know of any family that is interested in coming to our school please let them know about these tours.

Be Worthy!

James Penson

Principal
Message from Assistant Principal

At Kew PS, all our teachers are given the opportunity to plan in their respective teams. At the very beginning of this school year, all teams spent time planning for this term, in the first two Pupil Free days. Planning curriculum for the term is an integral aspect of teaching and all teachers are given common planning time during the week to facilitate the best teaching of the curriculum, to enhance their students’ learning. Another whole day of curriculum planning for each team, will take place in week eight which is the week beginning Monday 16th March. As a result of this planning week, the Specialists’ timetable will change quite a bit. Some children find any change challenging, so if your child is one who finds it difficult, please have discussions with them, reassuring them that these changes will affect them for only one day. Our Specialist teachers do a magnificent job during these planning weeks and should be congratulated for their flexibility. These teachers are Clare Connor, Kerry Lomas, Michelle Payne, Carla Temple, Shelley Ware, Ali Duffy and Patricia Incerti and without them planning weeks would not be possible.

A number of our students received funding from DET to support their learning and each term an SSG (Student Support Group) meeting is held with parents, teachers and support staff, to discuss their learning and to set goals for the following term. This year these SSG’s will be held on Tuesday 24th March and I will be contacting parents to set up a meeting time throughout that school day. Following this, these parents will receive a letter of confirming the time for their child’s SSG.

With just over three weeks of this term remaining, it may be a good opportunity to take a look at the lost property cupboard to see if you can find those missing items of uniform. Once again, I would remind parents to name their child’s clothing because all named items can be quickly returned to the rightful owner.

Robin Grace

Kew Primary School Blog

This week on the blog, Rodney Thomson gives us the inside word on secret men’s business… (actually, it’s not a secret, it’s the KPS Fathers’ Association).

All contributions to the school blog are welcome (and I’m more than happy to assist with images and editing). If you’ve got something you’d like to share (even simply an idea for a blog post), please drop me a line at: katrina.w@ozemail.com.au

Katrina Whelen

Scholastic Book Orders

Book Club orders are due back on 17th March.
Library News

Popular children’s author, Sofie Laguna is coming to Kew Primary on Tuesday 24th March at 5pm. Sofie will inspire students and parents to read by sharing her writing and acting skills.

This Library Event will be held in the Junior School Hall and costs $5.00 per family. Numbers are limited and children must be accompanied by an adult.


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Overdue books – If your child receives an overdue notice from the Library please check at home for the book. It is also a good idea to check the classroom. If you cannot return the book, the replacement cost is $30 and may be paid at the office. If you think the book has been returned, please return the overdue notice with a note on it and Ruth will check the Library. Occasionally books do get returned to the shelves without being processed at the Circulation Desk.

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Donations needed – if you have any old encyclopaedias or REALLY large books and you no longer want them, we are looking for some for a craft project in the Library.

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Helpers roster – Thanks to the following parents who are diligently shelving books in the afternoons – Nicole Bradley, Midori Adachi and Kath Phelen. Also thanks to Bethanie Clarke for bringing her creative skills to the Library. If anyone else would like to help with shelving please see Ruth.

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Cybersafety - THINK!

It’s really important to think carefully before posting or sending a message/picture. Ask yourself the following questions........

T - is it true?
H - is it helpful?
I - is it inspiring.
N - is it necessary?
K - is it kind?

Madame T and the eSmart team
KEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

“Be Worthy”

SCHOOL TOUR DATES 2015

TERM 1 2015

Wednesday 11th March - 9.30am
Tuesday 17th March - 9.30am
Monday 23rd March - 9.30am
Wednesday 25th March – 6pm

Come to the general office and join the tour with
Mr James Penson the Principal.

NO bookings required.
Ride2School

Next Friday the 13th March is national Ride2School day. Kew Primary would like as many students to ride, walk, skating or scoot as fun ways to travel to school.

We support our students to walk or wheel to school because:

- Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day.
- There are fewer cars around the school which eases ‘drop off congestion’.
- Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day.
- Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom.

Parents can join in the fun by walking or wheeling with the students.

Bikes can be stored against the Pakington St fence. A bike lock would be a sensible addition.

The Footy Show filmed in the library today and Adrian Beck, The Footy Show producer and co-author of the Crawf’s Kick it to Nick series presented the library with the latest books in the series. Thanks Adrian!
Program Update

At OSHClub we know the importance of staying active, and plan activities every morning and afternoon to get children moving and having fun! This week, two of our older children ran a Soccer Skills Workshop for over 20 eager participants in the gym. They practised a range of skills then played a large game of soccer. Dodgeball was also a popular game in the gym this week, as we had a delivery of brand new balls. Our giant new skipping rope has been lots of fun too, with groups of children loving singing rhymes as they skip.

Inside we have been having a great time participating in Minute to Win It Challenges. We have played the Cup Stacking challenge, as well as the Blow Me Over Cup challenge. These have been really fun activities for children of all ages, and it’s been great to see everyone supporting each other to achieve their personal best score. Also inside is our brand new table tennis set which has been enjoyed by many.

Our craft table has been busy, with children creating little animals and people using pipe cleaners and polystyrene balls. We also created Autumn Trees by cutting and twisting paper bags. In the kitchen we made Fruity Flapjacks, which were very sticky muesli bars... yum!

Did you know...?

We have copies of all of our weekly cooking recipes available to take home! You can find them on the children’s notice board.

Suggestions for OSHClub

If you have any suggestions for activities, recipes, menu items or anything else, we’d love to hear them! Feel free to pop suggestions in our suggestion box next to the sign in folder, or simply let any of the staff know next time you visit.

A selection of Next Week’s Activities

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<tr>
<th>Before Care Activities</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Design a Mad Scientist Table Tennis</td>
<td>Hama Beads Octopus</td>
<td>Paper Plan Competition Minute to Win It</td>
<td>Clumps Our Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Milk Experiment Dodgeball</td>
<td>Slimmer Limbo</td>
<td>Bake Bread Cricket Skills</td>
<td>Foil Sailboat Experiment Indoor Soccer</td>
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</tbody>
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Parent Information

OSHClub program phone: 0400 394 489
Coordinator: Jacinta Assistant Coordinator: Lauren Assistants: Niki, Stacey, Alyssa
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
Lead the Way!

SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2015

Where: Deep Rock Picnic Area
       Deep Rock Rd, Fairfield
       Yarra Bend Park
      
Time: Walk starts at 11am
      
What: An easy 2 km walk around Yarra Bend Park
      
Cost: $15 per adult $5 per child
      
All money raised from entry fee helps Victorian Dog Rescue to save dogs and cats.

Bring along your family and your dogs and meander along the Yarra River. Bring a picnic or there will be food available to purchase. Visit the rescue information and merchandise stands. Everyone is welcome!

Tickets are available here:

Contact:
Manuela Cifra
0411 184 701
manny@netspace.net.au
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