The Bulletin

Message from the Principal

This year our staff team have embarked on an extensive professional learning schedule. This is set to challenge and extend all of us. It will also continue to see us improve the quality and consistency of our programs across the school.

Here is a brief outline of this professional learning over the next few weeks:

Peer Observation / Coaching – All of our teachers will be spending one session in another classroom observing teacher practice. They will also have their own teaching observed. The focus for these sessions will be on higher order questioning. Following the observations teachers will then debrief in small groups and start to develop a teaching and learning protocol around questioning in the classroom. This process will continue in Terms 3 & 4 as well.

Michael Ymer Curriculum Day Thursday 19th June -

This day will assist teachers to incorporate the working and thinking mathematically dimension in mathematics and connecting this to the Proficiency strands in the Australian Curriculum. It will be a workshop style format where we will have access to lots of activities that can then be taken back into the classroom. Differentiating these activities so that all students can have success will be an integral part of the day and follow on neatly from the work we did at the start of the year with Anna Bennett around differentiation. I have worked with Michael in other schools I have taught in and I know our staff will have a really valuable day with him. In fact we will also use our final curriculum day on Monday 27th October to work with Michael again. This time the focus will be on planning the maths curriculum for 2015.

David Hornsby – Over the course of four Thursday evenings from 3.45 – 5.45pm (two this term and two next term) our staff will work with David on our spelling approaches. This is also a major focus this year as we implement our whole school spelling program.

As you can see taking on this wide range of professional growth opportunities is a big commitment from all of our staff. I thank them for being up for the challenge and the extra work this entails.

Report Writing – 3 Way Conferences

Our staff are also busy in report writing mode. This involves many hours outside of the regular school day and weekends as well. These reports will be sent home on Wednesday 25th June which is in the last week of term. Please note that there will be no parent teacher interviews associated with these reports as in the past. I believe that a far more effective home school partnership is achieved through conversations with parents, teachers and the student. This will take the form of a “3 Way Learning Conference” which will be scheduled for the 3rd week of Term 3. More details will follow but in short this will provide an opportunity for each student to share some work that they are proud of, celebrate areas of improvement and success, then set learning goals and strategies for the remainder of the year.

www.kewps.vic.edu.au

Diary Dates

Thur 29 May - Steve Biddulph Seminar
Tue 3 Jun - Second Hand Uniform Shop
Thur 5 Jun - Division Cross Country
Mon 9 Jun - Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Thu 12 Jun - ThinkUKnow Cybersafety Presentation 7pm
Sat 14 Jun - “Kew’s Got Talent” 7pm
Mon 16 Jun - Grades 5 & 6 Swimming starts
Thu 19 Jun - Pupil Free Day
Fri 20 Jun - Interschool Sports
Sat 21 Jun - Winter Gala Day
Fri 27 Jun - Last day of Term 2
Early dismissal 2:30pm

Email: kew.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Community Forum

On 11th June, School Council will be hosting a community forum where we will explore and discuss options for the redevelopment of our school oval as part of our school’s master plan. I know we have many passionate views about what this might look like, myself included!

In preparation for the forum and to assist our school to make the best decision we will be distributing a range of background materials prepared by the Buildings & Grounds team. This material is now available from our website and in hard copy at the office. There are also display boards throughout the school providing a range of information.

To facilitate engagement at the community forum, we will give members of our school community the option of presenting their ideas and opinions at the meeting. There will be an allocated time of 2 minutes for each person. If you would like to speak at the meeting, please register your interest by contacting the office. Alternatively, a comments box has been placed outside the office. In this way we can ensure that all voices have the opportunity to be heard.

I take this opportunity to thank the Buildings & Grounds team for their significant preparation and assistance with this process. This has largely been the work of Stewart Waters, Kath Phelan and Mic Wagner. In all my time on a variety of school councils, I have never been so privileged to have such a comprehensive range of materials developed by parents. This is a prime example of the very special community at our Kew Primary School.

Thank you to those parents who have spoken to me in person about our school not continuing with our Performing Arts program in its current form next semester. I encourage you to make a time to come and see me if you would like more detail about this decision. I am also happy to explain to you how school funding operates and the process I will work through in determining our school structure for 2015 and beyond.

Be Worthy!
James Penson

Kew Primary School Blog

In preparation for the open forum to discuss the School Oval Redevelopment Master Plan on June 11th, I asked Stewart Waters, convener of the Buildings & Grounds sub-committee, to give us his thoughts on synthetic surfaces.

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

“Kew’s Got Talent”

7pm, Saturday 14th June 2014
Tickets on sale until sold out!

As promised our very own Principal James Penson, on piano, plus comedy and much more!

Drinks at Bar prices. BYO nibbles & plastic glassware.

Prize for “Best Decorated 80’s table”, "Best 80's outfit", & "Best 80's dancing"!

LOUD AUCTION items needed - please let us know if you can donate holiday homes/ cars (only joking?!) etc...

Tickets $20pp available via trybooking http://www.trybooking.com/EYHJ