**Message from the Principal**

Wow, what an amazing last few weeks at Kew Primary School! Both our Year 6’s and 5’s have attended camp, our Middle School students went on a Bike Hike, we had over 70 tents set up on the oval for the Father Association Camp Out, our grounds look fantastic after the working bee, the students enjoyed French Day and we held our final School Council meeting for 2015!

All of these events highlight our wonderful extra curricula programs and more significantly showcase our amazing Kewmunity in action. None of these activities would be possible without the wonderful support of our staff, parents, carers and community members. I would challenge any school, private or state to match this level of commitment. We have so much to proud of at our school.

**SCIENCE TAKES OVER @ KPS**

Term 4 has been filled with a range of science inquiries and investigations. I know that our students have been really engaged with this and it has been wonderful to walk around school and see so much science in action. I have also heard about lots of science experiments taking place at home. We have made a strong commitment to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) across our school. This has been evidenced by ensuring that each Kewriosity rotation features a STEM focused group. We have also linked in with a Scientist in Schools program with our Senior School students earlier this year.

Perhaps one of the best examples though is the support of our parents and grandparents in helping our students to develop their STEM knowledge. Just yesterday we had Meika and Jasmine Denby’s grandfather Mike and grandmother Marg share some exciting science experiments with a class.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the STEM endeavours of our students.
FATHERS’ ASSOCIATION SLEEPOVER – A GREAT SUCCESS

Last Saturday was another amazing community building event at KPS. The oval was jam packed with tents of all shapes and sizes and the numbers that attended broke last year’s record! We were lucky to have a very balmy evening to enjoy our sausage sizzle, pizza, games, conversation, camp fire, movie, sleep (yes some!) and bacon and eggs. I think some of our mums also enjoyed a quiet night as well!

Many thanks to Rodney Thomson, Michael Senyard and Simon Odichio for organising everything and for running our KPSFA this year. This group runs an event each term and has continued to grow strongly from its beginnings last year. It is yet another example of how our Kewmunity is involved with and supportive of our school.

Please read more later in the newsletter in an article from Tom Hindhaugh.

WORKING BEE ACTION

At 8am after the Camp Out we got straight into our final working bee for the year. I always enjoy coming into the school on the Monday after one of our working bees as the grounds look amazing. Thank you to all those that assisted. Students who attended received a $5 lunch order voucher. We completed an amazing array of jobs including repainting outdoor furniture, staining the wooden animals and Junior School area, sweeping around the lizard and basketball courts, removing rubbish and old equipment from around the school, mowing the garden and much more. In fact the work completed on the day would have saved the school in excess of $2,000. Have a look for the “Working Bee Legends” poster in this newsletter.

FAREWELL PENNY DOERY

At our assembly tomorrow we will say farewell and thank you to Penny Doery who will officially retire at the end of this year. Penny has been on leave during 2015, but prior to that was a member of staff for 6 years. Penny leaves an important mark on our school in the way we more effectively use assessment and student data. She was also instrumental in developing our improved spelling program. We wish her all the best for her life after Kew Primary School.

SPONSORS AFTERNOON TEA

At our assembly tomorrow we will also say thank you to those that have supported our school through donations and sponsorships. The PTA has organised this and will host a special thank you afternoon tea from 2pm.

THANK YOU SCHOOL COUNCIL & SUB COMMITTEES

I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank all members of our School Council this year for their significant contribution to our school.

Thank you to Julie Coleman, Stewart Waters, Phil Kemke, Antony Williams, Rachel Naylor, Janine Arantes, Mitul Bhargava, Robin Grace, Andrew Wood, Leah Morgan, Jacki Hopkins, Faye Pattie and Ruth Woolven.

Significant work has been achieved by School Council this year and this can be largely attributed to the productive way in which everyone has engaged and worked with each other. We have also been fortunate to have such a varied set of skills, knowledge, experience and styles across our membership. This diversity and the way we have harnessed it, has been very powerful.
In particular, I would like to thank Julie Coleman for her leadership as School Council President over the past two years. Julie has been instrumental in ensuring that all views and opinions are canvassed, that an appropriate level of discussion and thought is dedicated to each decision and that we present united and clear communications to our community post decision. Her support during this period has been significant and much appreciated.

Thank you to Ruth Woolven who has supported our SC team through the provision of detailed minute taking.

Thank you also to those on School Council and other members of our school community who actively served on our Sub-committees. These committees actually do the core work of School Council and report back each meeting outlining the actions undertaken and providing a motion, action or recommendation to School Council for approval. Thank you to everyone involved with our Buildings and Grounds Committee including Mic Wagner, Clare Connor and Diamanto Pantazis, our Finance Committee and our Education and Policy Committee including Tom Hallam.

**SCHOOL FEES REMINDER & OFFICE CLOSE DATES**

**SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED FOR PAYMENTS AFTER WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER**

Don’t forget that our school office will not be accepting payments after Friday December 11th. This will enable us to finish the end of year process schools are required to complete. This is also a reminder that all outstanding payments from this year must be paid for before this date. If these payments are not made then the school must use funds from next year’s budget to make up the shortfall. These are funds that have already been allocated to specific budget areas such as ICT and Literacy.

**RELEASE OF GRADE INFORMATION AND 1/2 DAY TRANSITION SESSIONS**

Our staff and student grade structure is now in place. Staffing roles will be announced in next week’s newsletter. On the following Monday 7th December a letter will be sent home with all students outlining which class they will be in. A map will be attached to this letter so that students can go directly to their 2016 classroom at 8.50am on Tuesday 8th December for the first of our 2015 1/2 day transition sessions.

**FINAL EVENTS FOR THE YEAR**

**PARENT HELPERS MORNING TEA**

As a thank you to all parents, grandparents and carers who do a wonderful job helping at the school we are holding a thank you morning tea on Tuesday 1st December at 10.30am in the Junior School Hall. The invitation is open to all parents or grandparents or family members who have volunteered in any way this year. There is no doubt that without such amazing community support we would not be able to achieve what we do. If you are unable to attend we thank you for your contribution to Kew Primary School during 2015.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Our Concert will be held on the last day of term, Friday the 18th December at 9.15am in the gym. This will be a relaxed and more casual style concert with each grade or year level performing a Christmas song.

**GRADUATION**

Our Year 6 students will celebrate the completion of their primary school education with a dinner, graduation ceremony and after party on Tuesday 15th December. I am particularly looking forward to seeing these students shine on the night and enjoy the opportunity to reflect and celebrate their life at Kew. On the evening we will be presenting some special awards to selected students in the areas of academic excellence and leadership. I will publish the names of these students in the last school newsletter.

**LAST DAY EARLY FINISH**

On the last day of the school year on Friday 18th December we will finish school at 1.30pm. Our final assembly will commence at 1pm.

Be Worthy!
James Penson - Principal
**Message from the Assistant Principal**

During the past weeks, both James Penson and I had written about how busy these last few weeks have become, but in this newsletter article I wish to concentrate on last week specifically. I have a valid reason for doing this and it was because it was a week which highlighted the strong school/home connections we have forged here at Kew PS.

On Friday, it was the Bike Hike celebration for all Year Three and Four students that was made possible by the team effort of teachers and the many parents who have helped throughout this valued program. Without parent support this program would not be possible and could only be a shadow of what it is now. So thank you to all the parents who have contributed to Bike Ed at our school.

On Saturday it was the Fathers’ Association “Tent In”, again supported in large numbers by our Kew PS Dads and Carers. A fun night was had by all and what a captive audience we had for the final working bee for 2015. Yes, many families did remain and help spruce up our school grounds and I would like to thank the following families for this help: Wagner, Linahan, Tran, Innes, Thomson, Seamer, Lowe, Waters, Lundie, Mesley, Odicho, Senyard, Brown and Siew-Adachi. No doubt some families may not have signed in and so I would also like to acknowledge all those parents and students who contributed to this successful last working bee.

We are now entering the final phase of our “Step Into Prep” program with the last two sessions being today and the following Thursday. This is a great introduction to Kew PS for these students and it is also an excellent way for our Prep teachers to compile the class lists for 2016. This is the perfect opportunity to mention the transition program that is in place for the rest of our student body. On Tuesday the 8th and 15th December all students will spend from 9:00am until 12:30pm meeting their new teacher in their new learning space. These two half day sessions are invaluable for our students to feel comfortable with these changes and it will result in them returning to school on Friday 29th January 2016, looking forward to their new school year. As I mentioned in last week’s newsletter, parents have a great opportunity to model resilience and positivity to their children during this period of change after all, the teachers spend hours creating these new classes where their focus is to ensure the best learning opportunities for all students, both academically and socially.

Robin Grace

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**Kew Primary School Blog**

There are lots of ways to get to the KPS blog. You can click on the newsletter link, visit via the KPS website or you can search the web. But sometimes, I have to ask - you found us how?!

All contributions to the school blog are welcome - 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](mailto:katrina.w@ozemail.com.au)

Katrina Whelen
Whole School Christmas Concert

**Friday 18th Dec 9.15am in the Gym.**

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy Our annual Christmas concert. Every year level will be performing a song to celebrate our Happy holidays. Please save the date we would love to see you all there. It's a wonderful way to spend the last day together! See you there!

3-6 Christmas Choir singers needed.

If you love singing and would love to be involved, please join us. We will meet at lunchtime on Tuesday in the BER (Year 6 rooms) to practise some classic Christmas songs to be sung on the 8th December at 1.30pm at Highgrove Aged Care Facility in Kew. The residents loved it so much last year they have invited us back. The Choir will also perform at the Christmas Concert.

French Day at Kew PS

_Bien fait à tous!_ Well done to everyone who dressed up for our French day. The costumes looked _magnifique!_ Students from Prep to Grade 6 enhanced their French through watching a bilingual performance of _Cendrillon_ by Theatre company Carrousel. Thank you very much to the canteen staff and volunteers who served the yummy _croissants à la confiture_ at recess.

_Miam Miam!

Madame T & Madame P
Library News

Premiers’ Reading Challenge Certificates
Great news – the certificates have arrived. They will be presented at assembly over two weeks - 4th & 11th December.

Book Donations
Thanks to those families who have donated books to the library. We are now full up for the rest of the year.

Overdue Books
Notices will be coming home each week until the end of term. Please ensure all library books (overdue or otherwise) are returned to the Library by Friday 11th December.

Second Hand Uniform
Donations required. Please leave at the office.

Lost
A red and navy sleeping bag lost at the Saturday night sleep out. Please call Michael on 0416 076 519.
Sixty fathers and 70 kids camping for one night on the school oval. Recipe for disaster you may say? No, what a successful event it was! Campers starting arriving at the oval and setting up from about 3pm. There were the seasoned campers with well-travelled tents and gear, the sometimers trying to familiarise themselves with their tents that have not been erected for 10 years. And then there were the novices. The beginners. They arrived straight from Aussie Disposals to show off their brand new tents and torches complete with receipt in hand. What a great way to experience camping in a safe and friendly environment, with any number of helpers on hand. And of course there is the “out clause”- If I don’t like it I am taking my tent and torch and goin’ home (with or without kids). This of course never happened. But I can say I witnessed more than one dad stand back gazing proudly at their over capitalised 10 man, 4 room mansions, complete with built in remote controlled lights and fans - yep for 1 dad and 1 preppy! So when it came to the competition for the fastest erection of a tent, I thought I would be a sure winner with 4 months training travelling around Oz and 3 well-tuned helpers - 7 minutes from park break to beer cracked in hand. But no. The winner was thanks to a self-erecting tent that pops out of an unzipped bag and is upstanding by the time it lands on the ground. I was not lucky enough to see the origami required to pack it up in the morning, I was long gone. So needless to say there was plenty of fun for all, as well as many new experiences for some. It was great to see such enthusiasm around a newly set roaring fire for marshmallows to be toasted - or torched. It was thrilling to watch dozens of crazy kids on the back of a ute - albeit while parked. It was fantastic to see a crazy game of poison ball, with dads with rocket arms - and no head shots or tears. And it was awesome to see so many kids running around with their friends and the dads introducing themselves to new groups and connections.

And did I mention the food? Sausages, pizza, chips, biscuits, rolls, apples, bacon and eggs...

And of course the dedicated dads and kids that stayed long into Sunday tirelessly helping on the working bee. Well done.

So thank you so much Rodney Thomson and Michael Senyard for your desire to make it work, your organisational skills to ensure its realisation and your passion to see it succeed. The KPSFA has a purpose to connect the men in our children’s lives and to demonstrate the importance of good men in our community. This year the association raised over $2000. It held 4 events including an incredible talk from Steve Biddulph. We are looking forward to more exciting events next year. Stay tuned.

Tom Hindhaugh (Sam & Patrick)
WORKING BEE LEGENDS!
Program Update

Another week has gone by in a flash as we move closer and closer to December. We’ve started a new project this week the ‘end of year OSHClub movie’, we’ve all bought out our photography and film making skills as we try and capture the moments we share together every day. Amelia Gaffney took some amazing footage throughout a game of Capture the flag, even using a ‘so-mo’ effect on the i-phone! In the kitchen we became bakers making delicious orange and chia seed muffins. Tilly, Olivia C, Olivia H, Patrick and Eva assisted in stringing, cracking eggs, pouring ingredients and scooping the mixture into patty pans!
In our amazing home corner we’ve seen Lelani, Emma, Joanne, Eva X and Eva B engage in imaginative play, having an area that lets children escape to another world provides the child with the opportunity to explore identities and play different roles! During the mornings the pool table has seen Kieran and Arnie battling for the win, both focusing on their hand eye coordination whilst also showing a small bit of their competitive side! Well done boys you’re both improving by the day.

We are also very excited to announce that we now have an OSHClub blog, developed by Fearghas and with the assistance of the other children, please jump online and follow the moments from throughout the week! kpsoshclubblog.wordpress.com
Have a lovely weekend!

Reminders

If your child is booked to attend After School Care but other arrangements are made for their collection (such as a family member), or they leave school early due to illness etc., please call or text the program on 0400 394 469 to let us know. This avoids us having to look around the school grounds for children who aren’t actually attending ASC, and having to call parents and emergency contacts to determine the child’s actual whereabouts. We just want to know they are safe.

A selection of Next Week’s Activities

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>End of term movie</td>
<td>Christmas decoration making</td>
<td>End of term movie making Dodgetball skittles</td>
<td>Christmas Ham</td>
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<td>Table tennis</td>
<td>Care, trucks and play mats</td>
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<td>Bangle</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Capture the flag</td>
<td>End of term movie</td>
<td>Help Cooking</td>
<td>End of term movie</td>
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<td>Cooking Meditation</td>
<td>Soccer Christmas bunting</td>
<td>Popstick Christmas trees</td>
<td>123 Basketball Christmas card making</td>
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Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0400 394 469
Coordinator: Harriet Assistant Coordinator: Lauren Assistants: Niki, Issi
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
BSC Hours: 7:00am – 6:45am ASC Hours: 3:30pm – 6:30pm

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.
Peppercorn BBQ

Friday 4th December
5pm to 7pm
At School, Under the Peppercorn Tree

Sausage on bread $2.50  Polish Sausage $6.00
Greek Salad $4.00  Spanakopita $4.00
Ice Blocks $1.00  Soft Drink $2.00

Keen to help with setting up, cooking or clearing up?
Sign up at https://www.volunteersignup.org/G951.12

Studley Park Kindergarten
31 Stawell Street, Kew, 3101
www.studleyparkkindergarten.vic.edu.au

3 year old positions available for 2016

A small, community kindergarten in a beautiful bush setting

3 year old program running on Tuesdays and Thursdays:

Term 1: 8:45am-11:45am
Term 2, 3 & 4: 8:45am-3pm (Tues), 11:45am-11:45am (Thurs)
Optional extended care 8:45am-3pm on Thursdays in Terms 3 & 4

Enrolments via Borroodara Council
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au

To book a kinder tour or for more information on our programs visit our website or call our Enrolments Officer Emily on 9421 235 344

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Three Days Only!

50% to 90% OFF!

SCHOLASTIC WAREHOUSE
9-11 NORTHERN ROAD
WEST HEIDELBERG

WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER
8am-5pm

THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER
8am-5pm

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER
8am-5pm

$40 Fill a Box!

Hundreds of picture and chapter books, nonfiction and activity items.

Payment methods: EFTPOS, cash, V/MS,
stamped and addressed envelopes,hton, credit cards, and cheques.

To book a kinder tour or for more information on our programs visit our website or call our Enrolments Officer Emily on 9421 235 344