Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21</td>
<td>Last day of Term</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Early dismissal 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 29</td>
<td>Term 1 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teachers only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 30</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teachers only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 31</td>
<td>Pupils Start</td>
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Message from the Principal

Hawthorn Secondary College: Community Consultations Regarding the College's Future Direction

Recently I received a communication from Acting Principal Virginia Murray regarding deliberations the college council had been making relative to the future of the college. I have been asked to inform our school community about the resolutions the college council has made.

“The community of Hawthorn Secondary College has undertaken a series of consultations over the last few months regarding the best way forward for the school. This process has been greatly enriched by the input of many people in our primary schools.

As a result of the work undertaken the College Council passed these motions that have been forwarded to the Minister for Education, The Hon Martin Dixon.

These were:

- That the Minister endorses the formal closing of Hawthorn Secondary College at the end of 2013 and endorses the opening of a new College on the same site at the start of the new school year in 2014.
- That the nature, shape and focus of the proposed new school will be provided to the Minister no later than the end of Term 1, 2013. This work will be auspiced by the current Council and will be broadly based Advisory Committee drawing on local Primary School Principals, staff of the College, parents from the area (including Richmond), local eminent leaders and Regional staff.
- That the nature and focus of the new co-educational College, including its specialisms, will be informed by the new directions indicated by the Minister in ‘Victoria as a Learning Community’.
- As a clear indication of its commitment to those enrolled at the College in 2013, these students will have an automatic entitlement to enrolment in the new College in 2014.
- The College seeks capital works funding to enable it to develop facilities to cater for future enrolments from its neighbourhood area, which includes students from the Local Government Areas of Boroondara, Stonnington and Yarra.
- The College seeks a start-up grant to support the development of new curriculum structures, administrative processes and procedures, and related professional learning.”

In response to a further request for a school community discussion about future directions for the college, an opportunity to meet with the consultant (Howard Kelly) engaged to prepare the final submission to the minister will be arranged at a date to be agreed upon. This meeting, I anticipate, will be held in late February. At this meeting Howard Kelly would outline the hopes for the future for a new school. He would facilitate a discussion from parents to ascertain what you would like to see in the new school, what emphases, and what characteristics. Feedback from the meeting would then be given to the college’s broad-based Advisory Committee. It would form a strong element in the final advice the college would forward to the Minister by 31/3/13.
Thank You and Au Revoir

After twelve months with us at Kew as part of the Prep Team, Sally Downer leaves to return to her home state of South Australia. Apart from her classroom responsibilities Sally has been a member of the Information and Communications Technology team that has introduced the successful iPad program at Kew this year. In her classroom Sally has built the self-esteem and self-worth of children in her care, traits that are so important for developing the foundations for positive success in schooling.

Alison Williams has been at Kew for two years and during her time with us has had responsibility for a Year 3 class. Alison has effectively managed the learning for all students in her classroom with care, empathy and understanding of the individual social and emotional needs of all children. The working tone in her classroom has consistently been constructive and purposeful. Alison takes up her new appointment at Murrumbeena Primary School next year.

Sue Clayton this year has been teaching as a member of our Prep team. Her classroom has been one in which respect for self and others and cooperative learning have been features of the teaching program. The tone of the learning environment has at all times been purposeful and supportive of learners. In 2013 Sue will take up her new appointment at Lloyd Street Primary School where she will work with a new group of eager Prep learners.

Xavier Davis leaves Kew after three years, having taken Physical Education in his first year (2010); a Year 6 class last year and Year 4 this year. Prior to his appointment at Kew Xavier had spent some time as Casual Relief Teacher in the school upon his return from teaching in the United Kingdom. In addition to his classroom responsibilities Xavier has lead the school’s Assessment and Data team and in this role successfully implemented the SPA (Student Performance Analyser) program. This important software aggregates teacher assessments of student achievement enabling them to plan differentiated learning programs for all students. Outside his school responsibilities Xavier has maintained his interest in primary school sports in leading the Kew District Sports Association. Xavier moves on next year to take up his new position at Camberwell Boys Grammar School.

Faye Rodgers joined the staff at Kew Primary School in 1992 after having had teaching positions at Birralee, Camberwell South, Kew East, Burwood and Orchard Grove Primary Schools. This year Faye has led the Prep team with a proficient eye for the needs of the young learners in her care. During my visits to the classroom, the benefits of Faye’s approach can clearly be seen in the manner in which children relate to one another and the confidence children show in the way in which they go about their learning. Faye has shown the wisdom and tact that comes with experience.

On behalf of the school community I wish our departing staff best wishes for the future, whether this is in the next professional appointment or, as in Faye’s circumstance, retirement. Thank you for a job well done in the service of the Kew community.

Instrumental Music Surveys: Thank you to those families that returned a survey about the program operating at the school. Of the 90 surveys distributed to families, 21 completed surveys were returned. Surveys returned were all from families using Creative Music. Respondents were supportive of Creative Music continuing to operate the instrumental program at the school. Comments made on the surveys will be made available to Creative Music by way of feedback.

I express appreciation for the dedicated service shown by all: Integration Aides; Admin Support Staff – Aisha, Debbie, Ruth, Nikki and Faye; canteen manager Sally Brown and teachers at Kew Primary School this year for the professional manner in which they have all attended to their professional responsibilities. There have been many successes as a school across 2012. Some that come to mind are: a successful School Review in Term 3; the wonderful success of Kew’s entry in the JRock competition, both state and nationally; the Junior School production and the school community celebration that was the recent Bush Dance. School Council and PTA members also worked diligently to play their necessary roles to maintain a strong and vibrant school community, one in which has seen a reinvigoration of the strength of the positive culture across the school community. Robin Grace deserves commendation for the diligence, commitment, industry and application she devotes to every aspect of her managerial role.

To our graduating Class of 2012 I extend my very best wishes for 2013 as you transition into secondary education. The Graduation Ceremony last Friday evening was a wonderful celebration of the achievements of all children in Year 6.
As I am writing this final newsletter for 2012 all my thoughts reflect upon what a positive year it has been here at Kew PS. The students have been engaged in all aspects of school life, enjoying all the challenges posed to them by their teachers. However, for one year level, we are saying goodbye and good luck with their endeavours at the various secondary settings that they will be attending. This cohort is, of course, our Year Six students, who had their Graduation Night last Friday. The night was a celebration of their achievements throughout their time here and what a lovely night it was. Each Year Six teacher spoke about their own class and then they were presented to a packed gym, following a very entertaining whole class video created by Tahnee. There were smiles all around and I would like to publicly thank those teachers who made it all possible - Chrystal, Jaci, Clare, Tahnee, Erin, Xavier, Melissa, Patricia, and Gayle.

During the holiday break a number of changes will occur. Firstly, the canteen will undergo a major refurbishment and that will mean that Sally, our truly amazing canteen manageress will have a great new kitchen in which to whip up her fabulous food. Our volunteers who help Sally will have a far more flexible and pleasant space to work in and I imagine those Anzac biscuits will taste better than ever. The second project underway is happening in the Library with a wall having already been removed to make it a more open and spacious area. It will be painted during this break to give a fresh, clean appearance and further changes to furniture and the creation of withdrawal reading areas are planned for early in Term One. These changes to the Library are being paid for by the parent donations to the Library Trust Fund and I thank them for their generosity.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff here: class teachers, specialists, ESO teacher aides and our amazing office staff as well as Nicole, our First Aid Officer, for their continued efforts to make Kew PS a positive place to come to each day. They have a very strong commitment to all the students, ensuring that they enjoy their school life and make the most of the opportunities presented to them in a safe and caring environment. All of you enjoy a well-earned rest and come back refreshed, ready to do it all again in 2013.

To all the families at Kew PS, thank you for your continued support for the school and I wish you all a very happy festive season with lots of quality time for family and friends. Stay safe and I will see you all back here in 2013.

Robin Grace
This week the KPS Blog is proud to introduce our first Guest Blogger, Katrina Whelan. Katrina writes her own blog about books and she has selected her **Top Ten Books for primary aged-kids**. So, if you’ve still got a few presents to buy, or are just interested in some holiday reading, Ctrl + click on the blog icon at the side of this page.

Now, I first posted on this blog on November 13th so it’s early days, but I’d like to fill you in on how we’re doing. So far we’ve had close to 500 views which is a pretty respectable start (58 views on our best day). Most of those are in Australia, of course, but we’ve had a few from further afield: six in Canada (mostly my in-laws, I suspect), six in the USA (probably my Aunt Ruth and some random cousins) five in NZ, three in the UK and one lone viewer in each of the following: Romania, Italy, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Singapore, Hong Kong and Korea (and I don’t have any rellies in those countries).

This is a crazy time of year and I know there are lots of people who haven’t had a chance to check out the blog yet. I’m hoping that once things settle down after Christmas a few more people will have a look. (And if you get to it before January 4th you’ll see it with falling snow.) Thanks to everyone who has read it so far and given me some nice feedback.

If you’d like to write for the blog next year, or have an idea for a post, email me: Jacqueline_tomlins@hotmail.com. It would be great to have as many people as possible involved and you don’t have to be an experienced writer or blogger.

Happy Christmas.

**Jacqui Tomlins**
Lost Property—Last Chance

Please check both Junior & Senior lost property areas. All lost property areas will be cleared by the end of school on Friday 21st December. Any items not collected will be donated to the Second Hand Uniform Shop - and all non-uniform items will be donated to charity. Thank you.

SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM

Learn keyboard, guitar, Percussion, Brass or Woodwind.

Come and join in the fun of learning to play a musical instrument here at the school. Creative Music for Schools conducts an Instrumental Music Program of small group classes at school each week aiming to give children an excellent grounding in music. Children will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument. Tuition costs from $15.40 per lesson (payable per term) and enrolments are now being accepted for term 1, 2013. Interested parents should call Samantha during office hours on 9818 2333 or email samantha@creativemusic.com.au Please note our office will close for two weeks and re-open on Monday 7 January. You can get more information by visiting our web page: www.creativemusic.com.au

Looking for a kindergarten spot in Kew?

Studley Park Kindergarten has places available in its four-year-old kindergarten program.

For more details, contact the Kew Pre School Association on mob) 0434 810 669 or visit www.kpsa.org.au
Hello everyone,

2013 is just around the corner and 2012 is almost gone! It’s amazing how time flies when you’re having fun, and it only feels like yesterday that I started working at Kew. We at OSHClub Kew would like to wish everyone a safe, happy and prosperous New Year. Families celebrating Christmas, I hope Santa brings everyone a little something. Families going away for the holidays please travel safe. For families staying home enjoy the summer break.

OSHClub Kew’s holiday program starts on Monday 7th January until Wednesday 30th January 8am – 6pm. The holiday program is online now and bookings are filling fast. We have fun excursions planned and a special big kid’s day out to Bounce for the grade 4, 5, and 6’s.

BREAKING NEWS ….......BREAKING NEWS ….......BREAKING NEWS ….......BREAKING NEWS ….......BREAKING NEWS ….......BREAKING NEWS

If you have any questions or queries please call the program on 0400 394 489, alternatively feel free to pop into the program between the hours of 7:00 – 9:00am and 3:00 – 6:30pm and talk to one of our staff (Remembering that between 3:30 and 4pm is our busiest time and we might not be able to assist immediately). Parents who wish to enquire about OSHClub running a care program for preps on Wednesdays next year please contact Kathi on 0400 394 489.

We hope to see you soon at OSHClub. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

OSHClub Staff

*Please note: For staffing ratios, we would appreciate parents/caregivers to book online as it will make it easier to staff the program according to regulations and make sure that we can supervise and organise activities appropriately for your children. Also, there is a late fee for picking up children after 6:30pm and casual bookings incur a $2 fee for each booking.

This Week’s Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before &amp; After School</td>
<td>Kick the Ball Door advent Calendar Paper Mache Globe Kick-it Cricket 123 Basketball</td>
<td>Christmas Craft Run the Gauntlet Dye Painting Christmas Wish list Sardines game Simpsons</td>
<td>Cat in the hat pipe cleaner puppets Dream run Earth Collage Word search Giants, Wizards, Elves Bean Bag Toss</td>
<td>Cup and Ball Panda Paper Plane Flying Competition Cardboard car / truck Themed dot to dots Downball Farmyard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Activities</td>
<td>5/6’s Special Activity</td>
<td>P/1/2’s Creative Cooking</td>
<td>5/6’s Special Activity</td>
<td>3/4’s Gourmet Cooking</td>
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AASC ACTIVITIES: Term 4 – Fencing on Mondays ~ Dancing on Tuesdays have finished

A weekly updated Program Plan is located at the entrance of the OSH room for viewing. We also offer so much more every day, including our ‘special activities’. Children also have a huge input on the daily activities.

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0400 394 489  Operating Hours: BSC 7am-9am ~ ASC 3:30pm-6:30pm
Coordinator: Kathi Rowan
Assistants: Niki, Fiona, Cindy, Paul
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

*Please note: All families must be enrolled online to attend the program, remember it is FREE to enrol!! 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.
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. Go to www.chessideas.com.au home page. 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’. 