Message from the Principal

Hi Kew,

THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 STAFF TEAM

In the penultimate newsletter for this year I take the opportunity to thank all of our staff members for their contribution to our school improvement journey and to our school community. This year has again been a very active time for our school, and I know that our staff have worked incredibly hard throughout the last 12 months.

They have continued to embrace a very extensive professional learning program. It has been amazing to see the engagement in these sessions and then the work that they have done in implementing some of this learning. Most significantly I have been impressed with the high level of teacher collaboration and collegiality.

I thank all of our staff for giving above and beyond, stepping up and supporting each other, our leadership team and me personally. I acknowledge the extra hours they commit each week spent focused on our school. Many of these hours are well outside the normal school day at home of an evening and over weekends. Our State system relies on the good will of our staff to do this and it is one of the elements as to why our State schools are moving from strength to strength.

Thank you to our teachers: Sophie Apperly, Diana Matricciani, Chelsea Carmichael, Lee-Ann Butchart, Gayle Bennett, Mary Whitehouse, Melissa Hayes, Bit McLean, Nat Ryan, Trish Incerti, Elizabeth Murray, Diamanto Pantazis, Jacki Hopkins, Shenel Raif, Leah Morgan, Ally Papoulis, Andrew Wood, Sonia Hocking, Jeff Farnsworth, Clio Williams, Sally Marsh, Ali Duffy, Shelley Ware, Jaci Davis, Clare Connor, Michelle Payne, Carla Temple and Kerry Lomas.

Thank you to our Education Support team. Our classroom based ES’s do an incredible job. They are out every day supporting students at lunchtime and the work they do is vital for us. Thank you Mary Woodgate, Sally Macallan, Susanne Wright, Melissa De Melis, Natalie Grummit, Mary Diacaris and Angus Burns.

Thank you to our Education Support Admin team. Our office is such a dynamic and busy place to be. I know that I add to these demands every day. Our office team help the school to function so that we can balance the DET requirements and processes we must complete and also support the link with our parent community. Thank you Aisha Ali, Ruth Woolven, Debbie Capaul, Faye Pattie, and Kim Del Tito.

Our canteen staff have also done an incredible job this year. Thank you Dem Petersen and Sally Brown.
I also need to acknowledge the support of Sandra Groves as our DET School Psychologist and Sam Williams DET School Speech Pathologist. We are very lucky to have two such knowledgeable and professional people work to support our students and our whole school community.

A special thank you to our leadership team. They do so many things each day that the school relies on. Many of these things go unseen. The leadership team have been vital in developing, managing and leading the improvement agenda across the whole school. Thank you Robin Grace, Sally Marsh and Andrew Wood.

GREAT NEWS....KEW PRIMARY WINS THE INTERSCHOOL DEBATING COMPETITON

A message from Sally Marsh..

“Last Friday Kew Primary School was successful in winning the Boroondara District Debating Competition! We entered four teams, competing in a total of twelve ‘seen’ debates. We won eight of these and drew one. The Kew 3 team came second in the overall competition. This meant a final debate on an unseen topic, which they won. Our students were so impressive with their behaviour, their teamwork and their willingness to work so hard this term. Congratulations Kew Debaters. A big thank you to all the other students who worked together to support the team and our teachers for organising the program”.

PRINCIPAL’S REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF 2015
My review and evaluation of the school year is available from our school website and a hard copy can also be collected from the office. It contains a list of some of the things we have organised and achieved this year and when you start to list them it is amazing to see.

TRANSITION PROGRAM
There was lots of excitement and energy in the school on Tuesday morning of this week with the first of our ½ day transition sessions. In many ways it was almost the same feeling as the first day of school with students very keen to start the day in their new classes and parents also nervous and excited. Overall, the process of grade building and then the first transition itself has been very positively received. I believe that this is due to the extensive work that our staff do, the communication we have provided to our parents and students and of course, the significant transition strategies that we implement throughout the entire year. Our transition process is not just about these half days. Our work in this area includes:

- our multi age CARE groupings where students work with others from across all levels of the school
- our Kewriosity program that is specifically organised across year levels in Term 3 e.g. Year 2’s and 3’s working together as they will be in the Middle School the following year.
- deep knowledge of student learning needs develop through detailed assessment and data tracking and sharing of this across the staff.

With over 490 students we can never guarantee 100% satisfaction and I am pleased to say that only a handful of parents have been in contact with me to seek clarification about their child’s placement.
At this stage we do not usually make any more changes to the grades as much time and effort has been already spent on developing the best grade structure and student placement as possible. Part of this process did provide all parents with the opportunity to make requests based on educational grounds. These are just requests and whilst they are considered, they are not always granted as there are several other factors that have a higher priority for us.

It is important to become literate and numerate but just as important are the life skills of resilience and the ability to deal with situations when we do not get our own way. A big part of this is teaching our students to accept the umpire’s decision and focus back on going the best we can in the game. The best way to teach this is through modelling this behaviour ourselves.

A really important part of this process is for our students to be supported by their parents so that the transition into a new class and year level can be positive. There may be some hesitation, nervousness and apprehension, but our teachers will work very hard so that each and every child can achieve success.

**BIG ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK**

The agenda is jammed packed for our assembly this week. We commence this at 2.45pm tomorrow.

**FINAL WEEK OF SCHOOL REMINDERS**

The last week of the school year is always an action packed week.

On Tuesday 15th we have our second whole school transition session. We will also celebrate with our Grade 6’s at their Graduation ceremony.

On Wednesday 16th December, students will be given their Semester 2 reports.

On Friday 18th December school we will host our Christmas Concert. This will start at 9.15am in the gym. Our final assembly will commence at 1pm. School will finish at 1.30pm.

Of course during the week at other times there will be a range of class parties, special events and concerts such as those run by Creative Music.

**Be Worthy!**

James Penson - Principal

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Kew Primary School Blog

This week the blog goes blue, white and red! Or should that be bleu, blanc et rouge?

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

Katrina Whelen

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Second hand Uniform Shop 2016
will take place
Tues 2nd February
after school
Message from the Assistant Principal

The increase in energy is palpable around Kew PS as we move towards those final days of this school year as well as transitioning into 2016. This level of excitement will increase a notch as the preparation for our new oval begins next Wednesday 16th December and work will continue up until Christmas Eve, resuming again on Monday 4th January 2016.

A lot needs to be done even before this commencement date. Some trees around the oval are in real need of trimming and this will be completed this Thursday. The power to the old BBQ’s needs to be cut-off although the cables will be saved for future use and the sprinkler system needs to be disengaged. Of course, temporary fencing will be erected to ensure all our students are safe during the time of these works. With much of the work happening during this holiday break, there will be only a small disruption to play areas at the beginning of the 2016 school year. I am sure that you will agree with me when I write that small disruptions like these are worth enduring when we get a running track and oval that can be accessed at all times during all types of weather. Such a large project has been the culmination of a number of years of detailed research by members of the Buildings and Grounds sub-committee of School Council. The idea for a running track did start with fund raising via a hugely successful lapathon which was coordinated by past students in 2012. These students were in Year Five at the time and as an authentic learning experience, I asked them to investigate the viability of such a project. A number of years later and with School Council approval, this student led project will finally be complete. Both James Penson and I are so excited about the possibility this project brings to our school and the wider community.

Also, during this time the concrete slab for our “Positive Play” shed will be laid at the southern end of this oval area. Once the concrete is cured, then the shed can be erected and all the play items can be purchased. How exciting is this going to be for all our Kew PS students and I know Melissa Hayes will be smiling as she has invested a lot of time and effort into seeing this project come to fruition.

Robin Grace

PRC Parent Survey

The Department of Education and Training is conducting research into the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge (PRC) to understand parents’ experiences and needs, as well as any improvements that could be made to the program.

We invite you to complete this survey if your child was registered for the 2015 PRC. The Department has engaged Andrews Group, an independent research firm, to conduct this research and your answers will remain confidential.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Click here to begin the survey

If you are having difficulties accessing the survey, please copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser:

https://gau1.au1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9Rd7MoKOiVVAM3r

If you have any queries about the research, please don’t hesitate to contact Jillian Harriott, Research Manager at Andrews Group on (03) 9654 4480 or jillian@andrewsgroup.com.au. Alternatively please contact the Reading Challenge on (03) 9637 3624 or readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au

Thank you in advance for your time.
Thank you to Roz McNally and Danmin Chen who have regularly laundered the linen from sick bay. It is very much appreciated.

Kim
CLASS REPS 2015 – THANK YOU!

Thank you to all our marvellous Class Reps for this year. You have helped support your classroom teacher by sending on emails from them to all parents/carers in your class. You have helped organise class hampers for our Trivia night, and supported class’s with their stall for the Kid’s Fest. You’ve sent on emails from the PTA about social and fundraising events to class families. You’ve helped organise social events for your class so that parent’s can get to know one another. We appreciate all that you do which helps support our school community. Thanks from all of us!

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Peppercorn BBQ 2015

Wow, what a great night! Thank you to all who came along and enjoyed the evening.

A HUGE Thank You to all of our wonderful helpers! Your hard work and effort is greatly appreciated. Thank you to Joseph & Lucy Dwyer for the fantastic live music.

And another BIG Thank you to our sponsors:

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OUR NEXT PEPPERCORN BBQ WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19th 2016
Free Eggs!

Would you like to look after our chickens for a week over the school holidays or one weekend in Term 1? It’s a really easy job: let them out for a run around, collect any eggs which are yours to keep, give them some food and water and also give the plants a quick water.

Please signup to help at https://www.volunteersignup.org/4RJAC

Also, rather than throwing away any vegetable scraps at home, please consider adding them to our garden compost bin.

Thank you to the Bradley, Sharman, Ruff, Lim, Ellis, Clarke, Wales and Whelen families who have looked after our chickens this term.

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Bank with us and Kew Primary School benefits

Support the branches that support U

Did you know that up to 80% of our profits go back to your community? 100% of the money raised from this rewards program go back to Kew Primary School.

You can help us make a difference by simply doing your banking.

Kew and Kew East Community Bank® branches will contribute the following amounts to your Community Group for the following products:

- $50 for every approved and funded Bendigo personal loan
- $25 for every approved Bendigo Credit Card application
- $15 for every Smart Super Account opened
- $20 for every new business or term deposit account (opened & held for 3 months)
- $5 for every Bendigo Savings Account
- $20 for every new insurance policy opened (excludes travel insurance)
- $500 for every home loan up to $250,000 *
- $1,000 for every home loan greater than $250,000 *

At Kew and Kew East Community Bank® branches, Bendigo Bank offers the full suite of competitive Banking Products delivered with excellent customer service.

These offers benefit you and our local organisations and are an easy way that we can deliver to our customers and our community at the same time. There are many ways that we can assist you whether it is personal or business banking, investment or insurance needs.
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by DEECD for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.
School Holiday ACTIVITIES

Age 10-18 years

12th January 2016 - 21st January 2016

WEEK 1

Tuesday
12th January
360 Meet and Greet
11.30am-2.30pm.
FREE - Bookings a must!

Thursday
14th January
31.30pm - 2.30pm
Mosaic Workshop
Cost: $22 per person
Bookings a must!

WEEK 2

Tuesday
19th January
360 Meet and Greet
11.30am-2.30pm.
FREE - Bookings a must!

Thursday
21st January
11.30am - 2.30pm
Mosaic workshop
Cost: $22 per person
Bookings a must!

Proudly supported by
Kew Community Bank® Branch

Kew Community Bank®
Christmas Street Party

Saturday 12th December
9:30am - 11:30am

Kew Community Bank® Branch,
Opposite Woolworths, Kew

• Free instant photos with Santa
• Music by Boroondara Brass Band
• Free Face Painting
• Sausage Sizzle
• Guest Appearance from Figgy
• Balloons

Proudly supported by
Kew Community Bank® Branch

FOOTY 2016

You’ll love it at the Rovers!

The Kew Rovers Football Club is a family orientated
club with a focus on having fun, developing some
tooly skills and reaping the benefits of participating
in a team sport. Kew Rovers provide dedicated boys
and girls teams for Under 8 to Under 18 competitions
in the Yarra Junior Football League. Kew Rovers
Coaches are AFL Accredited and our home ground
and club rooms, located at Stradbroke Park, are the
best in the local area. Stradbroke Park is also the
VicFooty Centre for boys and girls 4 years upwards.
2016 Player registrations now open at kewrovers.com.au

Register before December 31 and receive a FREE Kew Rovers Gear Bag,
Football and Drink Bottles!

For more information go to:
www.kewrovers.com.au or contact
Realized Rooms-Maxwell on 0438 260 170

Boroondara Youth Resource Centre

Boroondara Youth Services
LL, 360 Boroumda Rd Hawthorn 3122
(03) 9836 8704
youth.services@boroondara.vic.gov.au

Boroondara Council

Boroondara Sports Complex
21C Bussoros Road, Balwyn North

All levels | Boys and Girls | 6-14 years

$135 FOR 3.5 DAYS
Early bird special

Boroondara Youth Resource Centre

Boroondara Council

Boroondara Sports Complex
21C Bussoros Road, Balwyn North

Reach for the sky.

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