Hello and welcome to our Bulletin for this week. The Bulletin is the shorter version of our weekly communication with our school community and alternates each week with the longer and more detailed School Newsletter.

As I mentioned at our very brief assembly last Friday, I continue to be impressed with and very pleased about the start to our school year. Each morning when I walk around the classrooms I see students with big smiles, teachers with great plans for the day and I get the sense that everyone is engaged with our Kick Start Kew program. My favourite part of each day is going into the Foundation (Prep) classrooms during their ‘Investigating and Learning’ sessions. Yesterday I joined in with some of them playing with magnets and trying to think of lots of words starting with the letter M (which is the letter the Prep team have started to explore).

Our Kick Start Kew program has ensured that we have made such a great start and will also enable us to build on this momentum throughout the year. It has provided us with the foundation for success in each of our classrooms. Over the next week each class will start to move into their English, Mathematics and Inquiry curriculum. There will also be a range of testing across all levels to enable our teachers to tailor their programs to meet the needs of their students.

Also over the next few weeks we have lots of activities to continue to build on our home school partnership. I would like to highlight a few of these:

**Meet The Teacher evening – Wednesday 12th February**
Classrooms will be open from 7pm and you will be able to meet your child’s teacher and see how their classroom is set up. A more formal or structured part of the evening will be the presentation from our staff. We have staggered the times for these to accommodate parents with children in different levels. The Junior School session will be from 7pm – 7.30pm, Middle School 7.30pm – 8pm and Senior School 8 – 8.30pm. Whilst the evening will give you the opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and other parents, you might like to also discuss information with the teacher in a one to one setting. You can arrange this at any time by contacting your child’s teacher and arranging a time that suits. This may be of particular relevance at the beginning of the year where you can pass on important information to us. Please note that this evening is just for parents. We will host a range of other events throughout the year where our students will be able to share with you some of the things they have achieved and are learning about.

**Fathers Association –** This year we will be starting up a Fathers Association with the aim of providing an outlet for dads to get involved with our school and also to demonstrate to our students the value of building a
strong network and networking. The launch of this event will be a Barefoot Bowls event from 7pm – 9pm on Thursday 27th February. More information will follow next week. I thank Rodney Thompson and Michael Senyard for their initiative and drive of this idea.

**Classroom Representative** – A reminder that we are seeking parent reps for each of our grades. If you are interested in this role please contact your child’s teacher. We will be finalising this by the 12th February.

**Student / Parent Voice** – an important part of any partnership is the information and input that flows between the partners. Throughout the year I will be holding a variety of ‘Meet with the Prin’ events. Lookout for the newsletter next week with the details of the first one of these.

You might also like to complete our first parent voice survey via the following link. So far we have had 25 responses and I would like to triple this amount if possible. Here is the link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NSGMLVF](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NSGMLVF)

Finally – some reminders that will go a long way to ensure that we optimise our great start to the year and ensure a great year of learning for all of our students. The first is for all students to arrive at school on time. We open our classrooms at 8.50am which gives students time to enter their classroom and get organised for the school day. Arriving after 9am means that the student might miss out on the tuning in activity or part of the key learning intention for the lesson.

Also now that we have settled into the school year, it is important that students and parents are not in classrooms before 8.50am. The time before school is really important for our staff. They will often be in meetings or working with each other to get organised for the day ahead. Once again if you would like to speak with them please arrange a suitable time.

Keep your eyes out for yellow forms that will come home with your child. A yellow form is our signal to you that you need to carefully read it, sign it and send it back to school. An example of this is our permission form that covers local walking excursions, photos etc. This will be sent home very shortly. With all of these yellow forms, prompt return assists our school to run smoothly and saves us time in chasing them up prior to an event. Time we can then better direct to improving our school.

Looking forward to the school photos next Friday 14th February. (I must remember to style my hair and wear my best suit!)

Be Worthy

James Penson
Principal – Kew Primary School

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**Kew Primary School Blog**

Welcome back everyone to the KPS blog and a big hello to all our new families. The KPS Blog was launched just over a year ago to provide a platform for discussion and sharing ideas, and to show-case many of the great things that happen at KPS.

The blog is open to anyone who would like to contribute and all members of the school community are welcome to give it a go. If you’ve got an idea for a post, or if you’d like to be involved in some way, please email me.

To kick start the year I have a great first post for you, a lively and informative interview with our new Principal, James Penson. Find out about James’ priorities for the school, his vision for the future... and a hidden talent.

Next week I’ll introduce you to our new KPS Team Blog and our first guest blogger for the year.

Love feedback. Keep me posted.

Cheers,

**Jacqui Tomlins**